

# Woodsboro - Walkersville NEWS-JOURNAL

VOLUME 3, NO. 6

"EXALTING THE IMPORTANCE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION" — EDWARD R. MURROW

JUNE 2023

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## NEWS

### Cutshall & Rittelmeyer elected to Town Council

Rittelmeyer received 39 votes, while Cutshall took home 32.

Page 2

### Wastewater Plant Funding Rejected

County tells town repairs are responsibility of residents. Page 2

### Walkersville Adopts FY-24 Budget

\$8,708,031 budget is an \$875,269 increase over last year. Page 3

### Council Rejects Property Tax Reduction

Commissioner McNiesh's proposal to reduce the property tax rate failed to receive support.

Page 3

### Unsung Heroes

Saying goodbye to McKenna Snow, our graduating Mount Editor. Page 21

## COMMENTARY

### Words From Winterbit

Extreme weather is not an abnormality, it has become the norm. Page 6

### Pragmatic Conservatism

It time for the Republican Party to bring adults back into the room.

Page 6

### The Liberal Patriot

Developing political discourse worthy of sustained public attention. Page 7

### Good Day, Neighbor

Democracy, part 1: Representation. Page 7

## ARTICLES

### The Book Of Days

The life & times of Henry Hudson, the Navigator. Page 9

### Ecology

Our mild winter is going to lead to a tick season with no equal.

Page 10

### In The Country

Preventing raptor road-kill.

Page 11

### Gardening

Gardening practices & the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay.

Page 14

### History

The History of Woodsboro - quarries. Page 22

### Cooking

Recipes from the 'Big Apple'.

Page 29

## Walkersville Day draws crowds from far and wide

On Saturday, May 20 residents of Walkersville and the greater Frederick area gathered for the 2023 celebration of Walkersville Day. From the public library all the way to the fire hall, streets and sidewalks alike were lined with yard sales, lemonade stands, and plant sales, in addition to some of the festival's most well-loved booths like the St. Paul's Strawberry Shortcake Stand.

Held annually, Walkersville Day has offered local churches, businesses, and organizations a truly stellar opportunity for fellowship for over 30 years. Although the event was put on hiatus during the Covid-19 pandemic, it returned in 2022 and carried into 2023 in even grander fashion than last year.

The event is primarily organized by Glade United Church of Christ and St. Paul's Lutheran Church. In true early-bird fashion, Glade UCC started serving breakfast at 7 a.m. and continued to sell lunch items and baked goods through the early afternoon. The church also hosted a small yard sale, which included a table to benefit a summer mission trip co-sponsored by Jefferson UCC.

Down the road, St. Paul's Lutheran Church hosted several tents on their front lawn where

attendees could snag a free hot dog or t-shirt, purchase handmade quilts to support children's charities, and, of course, snack on its famous strawberry shortcake. Said St. Paul's member Sam Purswell, "The smell alone draws everyone from the town in."

In addition, St. Paul's also invited local musicians to perform, including the Walkersville High School Jazz Ensemble. The live music paired with chattering neighbors and laughing children made St. Paul's one of the highlights of the day. "Some days, it's just fun to be a Lutheran," said member Bill Cartwright.

The Walkersville Public Library hosted their own live music, with the WHS string quartet performing indoors in the morning, and Mike Kuster and the Catocin Cowboys outdoors in the evening. The library also invited local vendors to participate in their weekly farmers market.

On the west end of Frederick Street, the Fire & Rescue Co. pulled out all the stops, displaying many of their fire engines and emergency vehicles so that children could play, explore, and learn. This effort was headed by Cindy and Topper Kramer, President and Chief of the Fire Company respec-



The best part of Walkersville Day for little Charli was St. John's strawberry shortcake festival.

tively. "I've been doing Walkersville Day since I moved here," said Cindy Kramer. "It's a great community where we do everything we can to help each other out."

With so many organizations involved in the decades-old festival, it is surprising that Walkersville Day lacks a unifying body to manage it. Yet members of Glade UCC and St. Paul as well as organizations like the Fire & Rescue Co. maintain that the event runs without a hitch every year. "The self organization is positive because it allows individual groups to actually communicate with each other," said

Bonnie Ogg, a long-time member of Glade UCC. "Glade knows what St. Paul is doing and St. Paul knows what Glade is doing, and they don't cross each other's bounds. It's all just simple communication."

Walkersville Day seems to draw a bigger crowd each year. Some attendees drive from across, or even outside of Frederick County to participate in this unique event. "You get to see old friends and make new friends," said Laura Shaw, a resident of the town for over 40 years. "It's a small town, but we couldn't ask for a better community."

## Woodsboro turns out for Memorial Day festivities

Once again, on Sunday, May 28th, Woodsboro did what no other town in Frederick County does - turn out in force for its Memorial Day festivities.

The day's events began at 11:30 a.m. with a ceremony to raise the flag on Woodsboro. The original flag was designed and sewn by Vivian Smith Clipp, a decedent Joseph Wood, the founder of Woodsboro, in 1976 as part of the town's U.S. Bicentennial celebration.

What happened to that original flag is anyone's guess, and design might have been lost to history had not a photo of Clipp presenting it to then-Burgess Maurice Murry been found.

The flag mimics 'Old Glory' in that it has 13 crimson and grey strips, but the blue field with stars instead sports the Woods' family coat of arms on a crimson background. The shield has three red Fleur-de-lis separated by a crimson chevron on a white background. According to historical tradition, the Fleur-de-Lis represents one's connection to the church. The chevron stands for the roof of a house, signifying faithful service and protection.

The choice of the color typically is associated with the military honor.

For those who have followed our reprinting of Frances Smith's 'Woodsboro Remembers', these choices are fitting as Joseph Woods, for whom Woodsboro is named, was a strict adherent to the Church of England, was the head of a large family, and was deeply involved and supportive of the American Revolution.

Upon discovery of the photo of Clipp presenting the flag to Burgess Murry, Burgess Barnes said he immediately knew he wanted to 'resurrect' the flag and see it once again flown over the Town.

At 11:30 Sunday morning, Barnes got his wish as the Woodsboro flag, along with the American and Maryland state flags, were raised on the new flagpoles in Memorial Park.

Following the flag raising ceremony, members of the Glenn Eyer American Legion Post conducted a wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial at the north end of Town.

The focus of the day then shifted to Mt. Hope Cemetery where those who were to participate in the annual Memorial Day parade



Mrs. Vivian Smith Clipp presenting the original Woodsboro town flag that she designed in 1976 to then Burgess Maurice Murray

assembled and organized. With traffic stopped on the streets, the parade kicked off, weaving down Main Street, to Coppermine Road then down Second Street. Residents formed a solid wall along the route, cheering the participants on.

Following the parade, the community was invited to the American

Legion hall where a memorial service was held.

On May 29th, Dahl Drenning played taps at the Mount Hope Cemetery. Following the ceremony, flags were placed at the graves of the six soldiers from three wars buried there who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

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## WOODSBORO NEWS

# Cutshall & Rittelmeyer elected to Town Council

The May 13<sup>th</sup> Town election returned current Commissioner John Cutshall to the Town Council and saw former Burgess Bill Rittelmeyer returned to the Council after a three year absence from town affairs.

Rittelmeyer received 39 write in votes, while Cutshall, whose name was the only official candidate on the ballot, took home 32.

Rittelmeyer will be filling the seat of Dana Crum who chose not to seek re-election so she could spend more time with her family. "With a three year old now run-

ning around the house, I just don't have the time to dedicate to the Council, and it's not fair to him, or the town." Crum said.

Rittelmeyer served 10+ years as a Commissioner, and from 2015 to 2019 served as the Town's Burgess. Rittelmeyer said he was "honored to be serving the citizens of Woodsboro again."

Rittelmeyer ran as a write-in candidate because he had initially not planned on running, but opted to do so when no one else stepped up fill Crum's seat at the April nominating convention.

"I hadn't thought about putting my name in prior to the meeting and hadn't discussed it with my wife. So, I wasn't in a position to accept a nomination at the meeting." Following the nominating convention, he went home and after discussion with his wife, and getting her support, decided to run as a write in candidate.

Cutshall said he never thought about not running. "I love this town. I've lived here all my life and one of these days they are going to carry me out of here in a box. I'm retired, so I have all the time in the world to serve the town. I love taking care of the town and serving the people."

# Wastewater plant repairs rejected

A request from the Town for the County to assist in funding much-needed upgrades and repairs to the Town's wastewater treatment plant was rejected by County Executive Jessica Fitzwater. The \$257,893 funding request was to cover the cost of replacing three obsolete electrical distribution panels and the facility's sewage pre-screening filters.

"The electrical distribution panels are old and it's only a matter of time before they fail," said Burgess Heath Barnes. "Because of their age, we can no longer repair them by swapping out worn parts, but must replace the full panel—and if we lose one, we lose the whole plant. Given the impact of even losing one, we need to take preventive measures and replace them in a controlled manner that will have the least impact on the facility's operations.

"Given that the County budget has increased by \$20 million, to \$228.1 million, I approached County Executive Jessica Fitzwater to see if some funds added to her County budget could be used to help the Town," Barnes told the Town Council.

In an e-mail to Barnes, Fitzwater rejected the request, stating that while she carefully considered the request to include funds in her budget, she decided not to.

"I feel strongly that municipal maintenance and improvement projects are a responsibility of each municipality and their rate payers," said Fitzwater in an e-mail reply.

While she said that she would support the Town's request for funding from State and Federal sources, Barnes told the Council that the state grants that could have been used for the repairs have all but dried up.

"Unfortunately, we've already allocated and/or spent all of the \$946,000 the Town received from the American Rescue Plan Act that came our way as part of the COVID-19 recovery efforts. The vast majority of it going to much-needed repairs in our water and sewer systems," Barnes said.

[The American Rescue Plan Act provided \$350 billion in emergency funding for eligible state & local initiatives related to infrastructure improvements, specially focused on water and sewer initiatives.]

Unwilling to leave any stone unturned, Barnes also reached out to Delegate Jesse Pippy and Senator Bill Folden and asked them to present the Town's request to the Governor, but he denied the funds as well.

With both state and county funding blocked, Barnes said the Town

## Woodsboro-Walkersville NEWS-JOURNAL

P.O. Box 394  
Woodsboro, Maryland 21798  
301-471-3306

www.ww-nj.com

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Senior Advisors:

Boyce Rensberger  
Dorothea Mordan

Executive Editor: Michael Hillman, editor@ww-nj.com

Managing Editor: McKenna Snow - MSMU Class of 2023

Assistant Editor: Claire Doll - MSMU Class of 2024

English Editor: Katie Wherley

News Reporter: Elizabeth Anderson & Audrey Shabelski, news@ww-nj.com

Graphic Design and Layout: Brian Barth, timebombstudios.com

Advertising: Sharon Graham, advertising@emmitsburg.com

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Staff will sharpen their pencils and see where they can find the money for the repairs. "We have no other option," Barnes said. "We don't have the luxury of sitting around and just waiting for the waste water plant to fail. We need to fix it now, in a methodical fashion."

Woodsboro is not the only local town struggling with identifying funding sources to repair aging water and sewer infrastructure.

In April, the town of Emmitsburg approved a 363% increase in their water rates, spread out over five years, to fund repairs to their failing water system. Without the rate increase Emmitsburg Town Officials said, the Town would be unable to demonstrate that the ratepayers were covering the day-to-day cost of the system, which would make then illegible for future state grant requests.

# Website comes full circle... sort of

Frequent users of the Woodsboro Town website might have noticed the website down more frequently in the past few years, while others might have raised eyebrows at perceived lack of response by Town officials to e-mails. The root cause for both issues lay in the Town's website host provider, Ipower.

Back in the late 1990s, Ipower, a Boston-based company, was the 'go-to' player for website hosting packages. Offering low rates, a plethora of great website design tools, and top quality technical support based in Phoenix, Arizona, influenced many, including Michael Hillman, the editor of this

paper, to choose them as their website and e-mail host provider, and to recommend others do likewise.

In 2009, then-commissioners Scott Brakebill and Bill Rittelmeyer requested Hillman, who had just finished redesigning the Gettysburg Town website, to redesign Woodsboro's. In process, the website was moved over to Ipower to save money, which is where it has stayed for the past 15 years.

Unfortunately for Ipower, the competition in the webhosting world heated up in the ensuing years, making the business less and less profitable. To make up for the loss of profit, Ipower began to cut cost ... bear with me ... I'll get to the dropped e-mails in a second...

First to go was the concierge centered customer support. A few years

later, technical support was off shored, &c, &c. In March of this year, any pretense of providing technical support was abandoned. All support is now done through 'chat'.

As technical support and reliability went down the drain, Ipower was sold and resold until it became nothing more than a ready place for spammers to set up a quick website to spam from. Unfortunately for Ipower's other customers, like the Town of Woodsboro, they found themselves painted with the same brush: spammers.

As Ipower ramped up its open embrace of spammers, sites like Google, MSN, Verizon, &c began to block e-mails coming from Ipower hosted sites. So while Burgess Barnes could get a resident's e-mail, if they used a hosting provider that blocked Ipower, he was unable to respond—

at least with his Town e-mail account.

The downward spiral for the Town was finally arrested thanks to Alan Rugh, of Firestride Media in Walkersville.

In early April, Alan, who performed the last redesign of the Town's website, noted that the website was down. Unable to get a response from the now non-existent Ipower technical support staff, Alan approached Commissioner Dana Crum about taking control of the website—again—and transferring it back under his control, which Crum authorized. Within days, the website was up and running, and the email issues resolved.

At the May Town meeting, the Town Council formally approved the transfer of the website to Rugh's Firestride Media.

During this time, the Woodsboro-Walkersville News-Journal website, which was also hosted on Ipower, was suffering the same issues, and independent of the Town, also approached Alan about taking control of our site away from Ipower and moving it to Firestride. By the time you read this article, the deed will have been done and hopefully we'll be able to e-mail newly elected commissioner Bill Rittelmeyer to remind him that it all started with him!

Now, when something goes wrong, the fix is only a few miles down the road.



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# WALKERSVILLE NEWS

## FY-24 town budget approved

At the May 24 town meeting the Town Council voted to approve the 2024 fiscal year General & Water Fund budgets, which collectively amount to \$8,708,031, an increase of \$875,269 over last year. The vote was 4-1, with Michael McNiesh casting the dissenting vote.

The General Fund budget calls for revenues of \$6,944,698, an increase of \$633,454 over last year. Real estate taxes account for approximately \$1,062,330 of the Town's revenue, an increase of \$86,000 over last year due to the decision of the Town to keep the tax rate the same as last year. \$339,964 comes from business property taxes; \$1,184,040 is coming from the Town's 'piggy back' tax on residents' state income tax payments; \$960,555 comes from the County as 'rebates' for the Town

expenses related to the Town providing services such as police coverage & parks, which the County is required to provide; and, \$364,153 comes from 'highway taxes,' i.e. state motor fuel and vehicle taxes distributed to local governments for their own road and bridge maintenance.

Other sources of income include Project Open Space grants, Interest on town's accounts, rental and amusement income. The various sources of income, however, fall \$2,337,616 short on next year's expenses, so the Town is dipping into its reserve fund to balance the budget.

The General Fund budget anticipates \$6,944,698 in expenditures, with total recurring expenses making up \$4,285,302 and capital expenditures being \$2,659,396. This is a 3.7% increase of over last year.

Recurring expenses include \$750,000 for staff salaries; \$374,165 for parks; \$300,000 for trash and yard waste collection; \$165,000 for staff medical insurance; \$130,000 for planning and zoning related expenses; \$522,000 for building & street maintenance; \$120,000 for staff retirement contributions; and \$120,000 for street lighting & utilities.

Other recurring expenses included workmen's compensation, recycling, code enforcement, and \$30,000 in contributions to the Ambulance & Fire Companies.

The police budget, which is also paid out of the general fund, will increase from \$1,360,000 to \$1,650,000. This increase will cover increased overtime costs for the five state troopers assigned to Walkersville.

The budget for security monitoring will also increase from \$1,600 to \$10,000 to pay for security cameras and other equipment at the newly-renovated Creamery Park as well as potential new facilities like a dog park at Heritage Farm Park.

Capital expenditures will include rollover for several projects, such as the renovation of the Heritage Farm Park playground and improvements to Maple Avenue and Maryland Avenue (estimated at \$1.144 million). New capital expenditures consist primarily of a \$250,000 investment in sidewalk and roadway renovation as well as additional public works equipment.

The 2024 Water Fund budget is set at \$1,763,333 with only \$1,449,000 in revenue, creating a \$314,333 deficit. Members of the Town Council expressed concern that this may require an

increase in water rates.

"It's hard for us to say it and hard for citizens to hear it, but the water fund is a business and we shouldn't just be breaking even," said Town Manager Sean Williams.

Commissioner Mike McNiesh challenged a potential rate increase, stating, "I disagree with the premise of trying to make money on a private business—for the town residents, I feel like this should be a net zero goal. That being said, we are showing a significant deficit and we do need to address that."

Burgess Weddle recommended that either a special assessment be made in the fall or a tiered water rate be considered to account for the deficit. Water billing is expected to be made quarterly by that time.

For more information, residents can view the introduced budgets on the Town website.

## Council rejects reducing property tax rate

Property tax revenue for Walkersville will increase 8.2% in their property taxes this year, due to the effect of inflation, as a result of the Town Council's decision to maintain the Town's current property tax rate of .14 per \$100 of assessed value at their May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

According to the State, the estimated assessable tax base for 2023 for Walkersville increased from \$758,807,019 to \$820,721,900, or a difference of \$61,914,811. At the current tax rate, this would result in an increase of \$86,000 in tax revenue for the Town.

If the Town had opted to not accept the additional revenue, the Town Council would have needed to reduce the tax rate to .1294 per \$100 of assessed value—which is referred

to as the 'constant yield rate.'

Prior to the decision to retain the current tax rate, Commissioner Michael McNiesh proposed instead reducing the tax rate to .10 per \$100 of assessed value.

In defending his proposal, McNiesh pointed out "when the Town lowered its tax rate in 2020 from .16 to .14, the Town was sitting on a ten-million-dollar surplus." The 2020 decision came about as a result of criticism at the time that the Town had been realizing significant annual surpluses, resulting in a significant capital reserve.

"We now have an 11-million-dollar surplus," McNiesh said. "So in three years since we lowered the tax rate, the last time we've put another million dollars in the bank."

McNiesh noted that in the three years, although the Town has spent significant money on various studies, as well as purchasing new playground equipment, the surplus has gone up. "Since we are not spending the money in the surplus, we should be lowering our taxes and giving it back to the residents instead of taking it from them."

Commissioner Gary Baker questioned how the numbers would look had the Town, if instead of paying for many of the Town's projects conducted over the past three years using COVID-19 ARAP funds, had been paid out of the Town's surplus.

Town Manager Sean Williams said that in that case, the Town would have spent \$2.1 million of their own funds and the surplus would have

dropped by one million dollars.

Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis defended keeping the current tax rate by stating that there are a lot of roads and sidewalks that are going to need to be repaired. "It doesn't take a lot of scope to spend a million dollars on a project." Baker echoed Brodie-Ennis' concerns, noting how many roads were out of compliance and need to be fixed.

McNiesh countered their concerns by stating, "by reducing the tax rate to .10, we will reduce the yearly Town income by \$300,000, which is the yearly budget surplus." McNiesh proposed the Town go 'revenue neutral', i.e., taxing residents only what it actually needs to cover expenses, then start spending money out of the Town's \$11 million surplus for

any infrastructure projects.

In response to Brodie-Ennis' concerns that projects could quickly eat into the Town's surplus, McNiesh said that the Town's surplus "is double the surplus that the Federal government recommends," implying that the Town had plenty of cushion in the surplus.

Brodie-Ennis countered by saying that because of the fiscal prudence of past councils, Walkersville does not have to worry about its finances and meeting expenditures. McNiesh responded, "there is a fine line between fiscal responsibility and hoarding taxpayer's money."

McNiesh's proposal to reduce the tax rate failed to receive backing from any of the other commissioners. As the Council opted not to reduce the tax rate to the 'constant yield rate,' the current tax rate remains.

## Dog park on hold

The Parks Commission has decided for more in-depth planning before moving forward with construction of a dog park within Heritage Farm Park. The inclusion of a dog park at Heritage Farm was suggested after last year's parks development survey revealed that a number of town residents were interested a dedicated unleashed space for their dogs.

Heritage Farm is a popular site for dog-walking with its open fields and paved walking trails. However, a fenced and unleashed space would allow pet owners to let their dogs run and play without fear of dangers like car traffic.

The tentative site of the dog park is the former compost area, located between the water tower and community garden. This space has remained unused for several years and maintains a greater distance from sports fields and residential homes than other spaces in the park. It is also located close to parking and to the water line if a dog water fountain is installed.

The Town Council agreed at the April 26 meeting that should the dog park be built, it would likely

consist of a 100 ft. by 100 ft. area for large dogs and a 40 ft. by 100 ft. area for small dogs (defined as under 30 lbs.), in addition to an unleashing area. The estimated cost for a dog park of this size is \$25,998.

While some commissioners believe the park will be a welcome addition to the community, others expressed concerns over clean-up, maintenance, and dog injury. Some members of the Parks Commission advocated for a residents-only keycard system, which would limit access to the park

to town residents who had filed paperwork (to track dog vaccinations, etc.) and obtained a keycard to enter the fenced area. However, this suggestion was countered by Patrick Heizer at the May Parks meeting. Heizer and his family own a farm in the Glade Valley area, but are not technically within the town limits.

"It would be a little self-serving for me to come here as a non-resident to tell the town what they should or shouldn't do, but I'm here because I believe it would be better for Walkersville residents as well for a keycard system not to be installed," said Heizer.

He then referenced the "time tax," or the unnecessary use of citizens' time on "bureaucratic" measures by private and public organizations. "A keycard system would require residents to assemble paperwork, bring it to the town, take possession of a keycard when we already have possession of so much stuff," said Heizer. "They'd bring it down to the park, frustratingly have to drive back home if it was forgotten, would eventually lose it, and have to do paperwork all over again. And, eventually it will break and then no one can use it until it's fixed."

Members of the commission noted Heizer's concerns, as well as the additional cost a keycard system would bring. An alternative, cheaper solution to worries of park misuse may be to install security cameras in the park, as per the suggestion of Burgess Weddle. But some wonder whether these measures are too excessive.

Until these issues are resolved, the Dog Park, which was supposed to be paid by Project Open Space (POS) funds, is on hold as the deadline for POS projects has passed and submission for its funding will have to wait until next year.



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**WALKERSVILLE INFO**

Wed., June 7 - 7 p.m. - Parks Meeting

Sat., June 10 - Bulk Trash Pickup

Mon., June 12 - 7 p.m. - EDC Meeting

Tues., June 13 - 7 p.m. - Planning Commission Meeting

Wed., June 14 - 7 p.m. - Town Meeting

Mon., June 19 - Office Closed - Juneteenth

Tues., June 27 - 7 p.m. - Planning Meeting

Wed., June 28 - 7 p.m. - Town Meeting

website: [www.walkersvillemd.gov](http://www.walkersvillemd.gov)

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 Walkersville: Our Town

## FROM THE DESK OF...

# Congressman David Trone

Senator Ben Cardin announced last month that he will not run for re-election and will retire when his current term ends in January 2025. First and foremost, this gives us a moment to reflect on Senator Cardin's outstanding career of public service and — most importantly — to show our appreciation for the legacy he leaves behind.

From the Maryland General Assembly to the U.S. House of Representatives to the U.S. Senate, Ben Cardin has served with intelligence and integrity. He has been a champion for working people, bringing jobs and opportunity to Maryland, especially underserved communities whose voices don't often reach the halls of power.

His unwavering support for small businesses — the backbone of Main

Streets across our state — demonstrates his deep dedication to the principles that make our country great. His passionate work on healthcare, including his fight for the Patients' Bill of Rights and dental care access for children, has improved the lives of millions. And as a leading advocate for clean air, clean water, and the Chesapeake Bay, Senator Cardin has been instrumental in protecting our environment for future generations.

He leaves big shoes to fill. I see this is an opportunity for us to build on his legacy and continue tackling the issues that matter most in our communities.

That's why I'm running for the U.S. Senate.

I'm not running for the fame or glamor of elected office. I'm running to get things done. I'm running to

raise the issues that matter in people's lives — the same issues I've worked on since I came to Congress: improving mental health services and making sure those services are available to anyone and everyone who needs them; getting a handle and stopping the insidious problem of opioid addiction, especially fentanyl and other deadly drugs; reforming our criminal justice system; and dramatically increasing our investment in life-saving and life-changing medical research.

I'll continue to be a full-time representative of the Sixth Congressional District. The people I've met, the challenges they've asked us to address, and the advice we've been given have helped us provide the constituent service every person should receive. It is this same

approach I would like to provide in service to everyone in the state we love.

The truth is, I've never been in this for me — and that certainly won't change in this campaign. I won't bow to the special interests, lobbyists, and corporations — and I certainly won't take their money. I never have and I never will. Instead, I'll dedicate all of my efforts to further understanding the challenges we face in our communities, continuing to listen and learn to those who are on the front lines. With your help, we can continue to make a difference where it matters most.

Since coming to Congress, I've seen the impact that the addiction and mental health crises have on families. I've seen the inequities of our criminal justice system. I've seen the shortcomings of our education system. And I've seen how far behind we've fallen in medical research. But I've also seen just

how resilient we are. And I've seen that when we work together, we can make incredible progress.

But none of this is possible without your help. I don't have all of the answers. No one person does. But working together, we can create an agenda from the ground up to continue making a real difference in the lives of real people.

I've spent my career — both in business and in government — focused on getting things done. And that's exactly what I'll continue to do as your next U.S. Senator. The issues I'm fighting for aren't partisan issues. They're American issues. And that's why my work in the months and years to come won't be focused on partisanship. It will be focused on bringing people together to continue our progress and make a difference. I hope you'll join me.

# County Councilwoman Renee Knapp

## Board of Health

On April 18th, the Frederick County Council voted to establish a new structure for the Board of Health. Previously, as we learned during the pandemic, state law established that the governing body for the county, the County Council and the County Executive, comprised the Board of Health. Under the new structure, the Board of Health will be comprised of the County Council, the County Executive, and the Frederick County Health Officer. Each person will be a voting member when considering future regulations.

Before this bill passed, the County Health Officer acted as the Executive Officer and secretary for the Board of Health but was not a voting member. Moving forward, the County Health Officer will retain current responsibilities and functions while becoming a voting member. Because I believe those who are elected to enact regulations should be as directly accountable to the

voters as possible through the election process, I opposed this legislation. The Health Officer is nominated by Frederick County and approved by the state.

Other changes to the Board of Health include the addition of six liaisons who will be non-voting members. They will aid the board by providing additional information and expertise in several relevant areas. The board will appoint an epidemiologist, a nurse, a mental health professional, a veterinarian, a member of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, and one person with a science related background. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, I can provide you with application information. This membership expansion should help the board make informed public health decisions, identify areas of possible concern, and offer recommendations for improvement.

## Sustainability Commission

The Frederick County Sustainabil-

ity Commission is accepting nominations for the annual Sustainably Awards. These awards recognize leadership in environmental stewardship. They are given to individuals, students, non-profit organizations, small businesses, and industrial organizations. Past award recipients have demonstrated leadership in the promotion of renewable energy, the adoption of recycling and composting, resource conservation, the promotion of water and air quality improvement, and other efforts.

Completed nomination forms are due by June 30, 2023. Award winners will be recognized at the Green Homes Program Recognition Event in October. For more information, you can send an email expressing your interest to LHumphrey@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

## Scrap Tire Recycling Program

To help the agricultural community with agricultural scrap tire disposal, the Maryland Department of the Environment,

the Maryland Environmental Service, and the Maryland Farm Bureau are hosting Scrap Tire Drop-Off events around the state. These events allow farmers to deliver scrap tires for disposal free of charge. In Frederick County, this year's event will be held from June 3rd-June 10th. Agricultural tires can be dropped off at the Division of Solid Waste & Recycling located at 9031 Reichs Ford Rd. The center is open 7:00am-4:40pm and it's closed on Sundays.

## Child Care Needs Survey

I hear from many constituents about the continuing problem of access to affordable childcare. Many home-based childcare businesses closed during the pandemic and options remain limited. Childcare arrangements for doing shiftwork are very limited. This leads to limited career advancement and earning ability. To obtain information for data driven solutions, the Frederick County Office for Children and

Families is conducting a survey for residents whose children are too young to attend kindergarten (ages 0-5 years). This Child Care Market Study will help the county understand the current local childcare supply and the demand that we need to help meet for working families. You can access the survey at <https://www.research.net/r/Frederick-CoFamilySurvey>.

The Frederick County 275th Jubilee Celebration will be held June 10th at Utica District Park. The grand finale will include a synchronized drone show with over 150 flying drones! The show begins at 9:20pm and will last about 15 minutes. The show viewing area will be located by the main stage. More information about Frederick County's 275th Jubilee can be found at [frederickcountymd.gov/275jubilee](http://frederickcountymd.gov/275jubilee).

Many events are happening again in Frederick County this summer! I hope you get a chance to attend some. You can always reach me with your thoughts and concerns at [rknapp@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:rknapp@frederickcountymd.gov).

# County Councilman Bard Young

The Frederick County Council is scheduled to approve the final FY2024 budget on May 30. Full Budget documents can be found on the County's website, which is updated regularly to reflect each stage in the Budget approval process. The documents will include the initial proposed Budget, Budget Amendments, and supplemental

Ordinances. The Council is required by County Charter to approve a balanced Budget, which must include any necessary tax or fee increases to compensate for an increase in the overall County Budget. Agendas for each Council meeting can be found online. Each agenda includes links to all proposed legislation and necessary supplemental documentation.

Over the past several months, the County Council has held multiple Workshops and Budget Hearings to discuss each category of the Budget. Each Division of the Frederick County Government has proposed their Budgets to the Council, which were included in the Budget proposed by the County Executive's office. To date, the Council has

approved several budget cuts that total approximately \$5.2 million. To reduce the overall Budget, the Council eliminated several newly proposed positions in various departments and eliminated or reduced the total of various proposed purchases and expenditures. Each Budget Amendment was voted on by the Council during their May 16 meeting. Documentation outlining each of these amendments can be found on the County's website and the video archive of the meeting can also be viewed online.

In order to increase revenues, the Council passed a 9-1-1 fee increase. As the cost of emergency services continues to increase, and the need for such services increases, there is a need to fund and staff these services properly. The previous 9-1-1 fee was \$.75/month billed to all telephone subscribers in the County. The Ordinance, effective on August 1, 2023, will increase the 9-1-1 monthly fee to

\$2.25 for all telephone subscribers. This increase will raise the County's revenue from the 9-1-1 fee from \$3.0 million to a projected \$9.1 million. This increase in revenue will help to fund the increase in the overall County Budget. The Council passed this Ordinance during their April 25 meeting. The Ordinance can be found on the County's website and the video archive of the meeting can also be viewed online.

On May 23 the County Council passed Income Tax Rate changes, to be effective on January 1, 2024. This Ordinance includes both tax rate increase and tax rate decreases, based on income brackets and filing status. For those filing single, it applies if your taxable income is over \$150,000 and those filing jointly or Head of Household over \$250,000. The rate increase is from 2.96% to 3.2%. The full details of this Ordinance can be found on the County Council's website.



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FROM THE DESK OF...

# County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

Summertime is here! As I write this, I'm looking forward to the unofficial start of the season – the Woodsboro American Legion's Memorial Day parade and wreath-laying ceremony. The annual tradition is one of the longest-running Memorial Day observations in the nation. We must always remember the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

## Jubilee at Utica Park

This year Frederick County celebrates 275 years since its founding. Festivities are taking place throughout the year, with the main event happening this month at Utica District Park. Frederick County's 275th Anniversary Jubilee takes place from 3 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, June 10. Bring your family to the park for this free event. There will be activities for all ages.

For the grand finale, 150 synchronized drones will light up

the sky over the park to create a 15-minute spectacular show. This event is a first of its kind in Frederick County. The drone show begins at 9:20 p.m. and will run for approximately 15 minutes. The best spot to view the show is near the main stage.

You can find a schedule of events and more information about the 275<sup>th</sup> Jubilee at [FrederickCountyMD.gov/275Jubilee](https://FrederickCountyMD.gov/275Jubilee).

Another way we are celebrating is through special video profiles of some of the many people who make our community special. Each month, the "Voices of Frederick County" video series from FCG TV features a different person or couple. The most recent video focuses on Julie and Sam Castleman, the people behind ThorpeWood. It's people like the Julie and Sam who make our community special. You can hear their story and enjoy the gorgeous scenery at the Old Mink Road retreat near Thurmont by visiting the

County's YouTube channel ([FrederickCountyMD.gov/Youtube](https://FrederickCountyMD.gov/Youtube)).

## New Website

I am excited to share that we've made big changes to Frederick County Government's website! Visitors will find a new layout with easy-to-read pages – even when you use your cell phone – and we have improved the search function.

One of the new features is a calendar section on the home page. You can find meeting information for the County Council and dozens of our volunteer boards and commissions, and regular programming for FCG TV. Quick links take you to the most popular pages, and large photos feature sights and sounds from around the county. A pop-up chat option can provide answers to frequently asked questions. Every page has a Google Translate button built in so the nearly 40,000 county residents who speak a language other

than English can change the text on the page into their native language with just a click. Let us know how we're doing with FCG FixIt, the County's constituent services app that can be accessed from the new home page.

Thousands of people use our site every day to find bus routes, file permit applications, search for jobs, and more. This redesign should make it easier for everyone to find the information they need. My Administration's Transition Team recommended an overhaul of the website to be more constituent-focused, and that is exactly what we've done with the new and improved [FrederickCountyMD.gov](https://FrederickCountyMD.gov).

## New Faces

At the end of May, we said farewell to one of the trailblazers in Frederick County Government. Chief Financial Officer Lori Depies has retired after 20 years of remarkable service. Lori was the first woman to serve as County Manager, and she led our Finance Division for many years. Lori's incredible knowl-

edge and skills were integral to the County's upgraded bond ratings over the past decade. Earning AAA ratings from all three bond rating agencies saves taxpayers millions of dollars and allows us to build more schools, roads, parks, and libraries. Clearly Lori has made a huge impact on the quality of life in Frederick County.

Taking over the reins from Lori as CFO is Walkersville native Dan Lewis. Dan first came to Frederick County Government 22 years ago when he was a student intern from Walkersville High School. Over the years, he has worked in a number of positions, including serving as manager of the Treasury Department, and more recently leading the committee that evaluated grant requests from Frederick County's \$50.4 million in American Rescue Plan funding.

Dan is a dynamic leader and he thoroughly understands the County's finances. It's exciting to appoint one of our own employees, who rose to the top of a national search.

# Woodsboro Burgess Heath Barnes

On May 13<sup>th</sup> town elections were held for two council positions. Congratulations to Commissioner John Cutshall on your re-election and congratulations to former Burgess Bill Ritzmeyer on his election to serve as a council member. Thank you both for stepping up to serve our town.

At our May 9<sup>th</sup> I informed the council that unfortunately our request for funding of \$257,892 to be added into the county budget for a major electrical panel replacement at the water plant that is needed was not added in. We discussed other ways to get it replaced such as will reconcile our records and see what is remaining from the ARPA funds that was received as one option. I also was informed that our request to have a grant issued under the Community Parks and Playgrounds for us to build a bathroom in the east side of the park was also not approved. It appears from what I can see out of the 70 plus that were awarded under this year's Governors budget only one went to Frederick County.

On a bright note, we did receive the denial letter the day before the deadline for next year's POS grant deadline, so we did submit the project under that along with the request for funding of the skate park. The meeting for that will be on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, along with the other municipality leaders in the county to determine the funding allocations so hopefully we are able to get the funds that way.

Commissioner Dana Crum informed us that she has scheduled the company to come out and paint the much-requested pickleball lines onto the tennis courts. That should be taking place in the next few weeks. The maintenance men have also removed the old playground equipment in one section of the park and the new equipment will begin being installed in July or August. I also gave an update on the town hall which a site plan has now officially been filed with the county and is going through the forestation and storm water management permitting process at this time. Once those are

approved the process will begin flowing through the permitting channel and hopefully at a quick speed.

The FYI 2024 budget was presented to the council and several items were discussed and some changes made. At the June 13<sup>th</sup> town meeting the budget will be voted upon at the first half of the meeting and then the two new council members will be sworn in to continue the second half of the meeting.

As always, I encourage everyone to support Glade Valley Community Services (GVCS) if you have clothes or food donations as they are always in need of items for members of the community. For more information, please contact GVCS by email at [gvcs.inc@verizon.net](mailto:gvcs.inc@verizon.net), or call 301-845-0213.

If you have any questions, concerns, complaints, or compliments please feel free to reach out to me at [hbarnes@woodsboro.org](mailto:hbarnes@woodsboro.org) or by phone at 301-401-7164.

*Woodsboro Town meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at*

*7 p.m. In addition, Planning and Zoning meetings are at 6pm on the First Monday of the month as needed. If you have an item for the agenda, it needs to be submitted 14*

*days before the P&Z meeting. The current location for meetings is the St. Johns United Church of Christ located at 8 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The public is always invited to attend.*

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## COMMENTARY

# Words From Winterbilt

Too dry, too wet, too hot, or too cold.

Shannon Bohrer

For the last several years we seem to have experienced more severe weather-related disasters. We have hurricanes, extreme rain, or snow, and often followed by floods or droughts. The weather patterns seem extreme in both directions. Too dry, too wet, too hot, or too cold is becoming the norm. When discussing the weather, it is not uncommon for the experts to tell us that the extreme weather patterns we have been experiencing are related to global warming. Maybe more disturbing is that the experts tell us that we are only in the preliminary stages of changes.

Often, the reporting of extreme weather events characterizes them as abnormalities. While we take notice of recent weather disasters, it would be difficult to say that the extreme weather is something new, or even unexpected. Several years ago, Houston Texas experienced three “once in 500-year floods” in just three years. The floods also re-drew and expanded the FEMA flood maps. People that previously never lived in flood prone areas find themselves needing flood insurance. In 2016 Maryland experienced a “once in 1,000-year event”, when Ellicott City flooded. Then in 2018, we had another similar event, and

Ellicott City flooded - again. While two “once in 1,000-year events” in just two years might seem unprecedented, from 2010 to 2015 the state of South Carolina experienced six such events.

Whether acknowledged or not, extreme weather is not an abnormality. They have become the norm. In 2019, the world experienced extreme heat waves, with record temperatures around the globe. Close to home temperatures in Portland went to 115 degrees Fahrenheit. While 115 seems high, in British Columbia, the temperature went to 121 degrees. In the United States, thirty-three records were broken, for the hottest temperatures ever recorded. Global warming is real, the earth is getting hotter and the oceans are rising. Is the world paying attention?

A critical element affecting our weather is the ocean temperatures which have increased worldwide. “The year 2022 was the ocean’s warmest recorded year and saw the highest global sea level.” The oceans cover 70 percent of the earth, and the warming temperatures provide energy for hurricanes and simultaneously the melting of glaciers and sea ice. Adding to this, as the oceans warm, they expand which in turn raises sea levels. “The last 10 years were the ocean’s warmest decade since at least the 1800s.” The oceans have taken the place

of the canary in the coal mine, confirming the dire predictions.

The extreme drought in the western United States actually started in 2000. By 2020, it became “the driest two decades in the region in at least 1,200 years.” In 2022, extreme drought conditions were in the national news every day. The majority of the entire western United States was experiencing a lack of rain and a lack of snowfall, which was greatly needed for lakes and reservoirs. Lake Powell and Mead were at extremely low levels and together they supplied the drinking water for fifty million people. In October 2022 it was reported that the Mississippi river was so dry, that barge traffic was halted. At one-point over 2,000 barges were either backed up, halted and some were even grounded. Drought conditions encompassed over half the country.

A reporter on the national news was covering a story about the Mississippi river drought. The reporter questioned a river expert on the drought, and paraphrasing his response, he said, it’s either drought or flood, and that is our new normal. His expertise and observation were confirmed earlier this year.

From December 2022 through March 2023, California experienced thirty-one “atmospheric river” events. I had never heard of an “atmospheric river,” it sounded like a river in the sky, and apparently, they behave in

that manor. Extremely heavy rain would come in from the ocean and flood large areas. The phenomenon then repeated itself, over and over for months. The extreme weather of rain and snow, entered the west coast and then traveled across the county, affecting numerous states and millions of people. One such event, occurring on January 10, 2023, carried a warning that thirty-four million people were under a flood watch. Thirty-four million people is around 10 percent of the country’s population.

The rain and snow fall this past winter and spring was so heavy that the drought-stricken Mississippi River was flooding. In less than six months the barges that could not move because of a lack of water were unable to move because of too much water. With the record floodings we have experienced this year, you might think the droughts are over. In some areas the droughts are over, but not all. Lake Mead has risen a little since its low point. Accordingly, “the Bureau Reclamation anticipates that the water levels will start to decline this spring.” It is possible to experience two extremes simultaneously.

While the weather has changed, there are some unexpected consequences of the changing weather, that are not often reported. Last year the weather-related natural disasters we experienced displaced an estimated 3.3 million adults. That equates to about one percent of the population. Estimates are that one third

returned to their home in about a week, while about a half million – never returned home. If one percent of the adult population is displaced and one third of those cannot return home, and extreme weather events are predicted to increase, what does that portend for the future?

Even homeowners that have not been directly affected by fires, hurricanes and flooding, will otherwise be affected financially. Insurance premiums are influenced by claims that have been increasing as fast as extreme weather events occur. It does not matter if you reside in an affected area, everyone’s home and property insurance premiums will increase. Additionally, as housing becomes uninhabitable or lost, because of weather events, there is a greater demand, and the cost of housing will continue to rise.

Too dry, too wet, too hot, or too cold defines the future. How will we grow food under drought and/or flooding conditions? Can we replace the housing that will be lost? What happens when 3, 4 or even 5 percent of our population is displaced because of weather, and half of them cannot return? While we are obsessed with migration from our southern border, a greater internal migration could occur from west to east, and south to north. The weather has changed and will continue to change.

*To read past editions of Words From Winterbilt, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.*

## Pragmatic Conservatism

The adult in the room

Colt Black

As a Republican, I will always call out my own party for hypocrisy. Because if we cannot call it out within our own party, we are charlatans of the highest degree to dare call out the left, and not clean out our own house.

Most right leaning politicians and their supporters will state they believe in the Constitution as the supreme law of the land and those who’d dare violate the rights of citizens should be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

I concur with this simple premise; however, it should shock every freedom loving American to their core that an overwhelming majority of politicians and Republican base are seemingly against this principal.

In the last few years, I’ve noticed a disturbing trend within Republican circles which is the attitude of politicians and the Republican voting block believing that law enforcement (police, sheriffs, state troopers, and federal agents) are without reproach, and must be supported at all costs because they are heroes and keep our communities safe.

Now I know what many are thinking that I’m some anti-police

lefty but that is the farthest from reality. As a Constitutional minded Republican, I believe in the entire document that is the Constitution. So many of our friends so vehemently defend and speak on our 1st and 2nd amendment rights as the pillars of our freedoms. But what happens when law enforcement treats you as a second-class citizen for the exercise thereof?

How can Republicans find it acceptable that law enforcement harasses, threatens, intimidates, and arrest those who dare insult or question their authority when a redress of grievance with government, free speech, and a free press is guaranteed by the 1st amendment?

How can Republicans say we support the individual freedom to keep and bear arms when law enforcement will treat those who are legally exercising that right as dangerous? Including killing citizens participating in these constitutionally protected activities. While at the same time accepting as common place police officers violating the basic tenants of firearm safety in performance of their duties such as knowing your target and what’s beyond it and pointing firearms at something you don’t intend to destroy.

How can Republicans say we are a party of freedom when we allow and continue to allow court decisions and police policy which violate our 4th amendment rights against unreasonable search and seizure?

How can Republicans say we support the Constitution when we allow police to think the worst of the citizens who exercise their 5th amendment right to remain silent and punish them for doing so?

How has Republicans come to accept violations of our fellow citizens 8th amendment rights against cruel and unusual punishment not by the hand of the state upon conviction but on the street by police officers?

Governmental accountability is a cornerstone of Republican ideals yet ending qualified immunity for law enforcement is taboo in most Republican circles. Meaning Republicans are willing to put government above the citizen by not allowing governmental actors to be held accountable when they do wrong.

How can Republicans hold their heads up as Constitutional supporters when they continue to allow civil asset forfeiture, which is the taking of citizens property including money without warrant, writ, or court order?

Why have we come to accept that our military has rules of engagement, but the legislatures both federal and state cannot put simple guardrails in place for law enforcement to follow which would protect both law enforcement and citizen alike.

How is it our law enforcement officers swear an oath to support and defend our Constitution, yet so many overtly and willingly violate our rights?

It is a lack of training? Perhaps a systematic attitude? Lack of judgement and morals by some officers? How about lazy politicians? The reality it’s all the above.

Republican law makers have repeatedly kicked the can down the road, allowing the courts to legislate from the bench. Protecting the interest of the government and the police they employ. Allowing police unions and interest groups to sway opinion, stating that the “citizens don’t understand police work” and to “trust in their judgement and experience” all the while in making legislative decisions whose consequence is on the citizen and not the police.

Police are supposed to be directly accountable to the citizens they serve as government is instituted among men deriving their power from the consent of the governed, yet somewhere this script has been

flipped. It’s time we make a change.

There are many good rank and file police officers who see the issues, want to see changes but cannot speak out as they will be ostracized by their department and colleagues. It’s a hell of a position to be in knowing that due to your true desire to defend citizens’ rights as a police officer you may not be getting back up on a dangerous call or lose out on promotion. It’s time we come together to protect our officers who want to do the right thing, they need our help. Good police officers need protection from those in law enforcement who wish to maintain the status quo.

It’s time Republicans everywhere stand up to demand respect for all our Constitutional rights, create law that protects our citizens from overzealous law enforcement while protecting police officers who act within the scope of practice, and ensure that our Constitutional freedoms are intact for future generations.

Because in the famous words of Ronald Regan the top 9 most terrifying words a citizen can ever hear is “I’m from the government and I’m here to help”. If this is help, citizens don’t need it. Freedom is scary, deal with it.

*To read past editions of Pragmatic Conservatism, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.*

COMMENTARY

# The Liberal Patriot

Politics worth watching

John Halpin

*"How citizens, the news media, and philanthropists could develop political discourse worthy of sustained public attention."*

Americans can build a more majestic politics—if they put their minds and resources together to create a different civic model.

Americans broadly dislike both leading candidates for president in 2024 and would prefer to see other nominees. Congressional leadership and the two parties are viewed unfavorably by large proportions of voters. Nearly half of Americans now identify as political independents with partisan identification at record lows. The news media covering the show is roundly disliked and distrusted by people across the spectrum.

The evidence is crystal clear: America's storied democracy is failing to engage its citizens in any meaningful and sustained manner. Lots of Americans simply don't care about politics or respect the people who run it. Unfortunately, this opens the door for extremists of all types who want to shift the entire system in one direction or the other to fill the void.

We need to create a political system worthy of normal Americans' attention—and interest. What would this look like?

No party tribalism. The crux of the problem lies in the distorted politics created by a dying two-party system. Where ideological diversity once roamed the land among both Republicans and Democrats—allowing for liberal Republicans, conservative Democrats, and moderates of all kinds to forge agreements on core national problems—ideologically aligned parties of today promote and reward rigid political conformity, with a few renegades

allowed here and there. Little gets accomplished outside of crisis moments and short periods of unified party control. Campaigns and supporting media coverage in turn are unending parades of partisan negativity ("Who do you hate more—us or them?") masquerading as high-minded debate about an "existential" crisis that requires voting one way or the other.

A future politics worthy of public attention must be developed both outside and inside of the confines of the two parties. We can't easily replace or transcend the two-party system given current electoral laws (although ideas like fusion voting at least offer additional choices within the two-party system). But we can as citizens demand and fund increased ideological diversity among candidates and institutions within the respective parties, and reward news media organizations that cover political debates fairly and impartially as opposed to being on one side or the other.

Substance-first news media. The drawbacks of party tribalism get amplified by legacy commercial media—and now social media platforms forced on people by tech companies. Turn on any cable radio or news show, and you'll hear nonstop yammering about the evils of the other party and its supporters. Scroll through social media or video platforms, and you'll get uninformed partisan invective, false or inflammatory information, and increasingly entirely fabricated propaganda from combatants in the partisan culture wars.

Paying attention to politics as practiced today often makes you dumber and less informed than if you just ignored politics altogether.

A future politics worthy of public attention must create and support its own media and information network—

entirely separate from the current most popular platforms—dedicated to "substance-first" news and reporting on major issues of national importance: What happened? Why does it matter? What solutions are being proposed? How should we evaluate these ideas?

Funding mechanisms dedicated to the common good. Billions of dollars get burned every year developing, promoting, and elevating tribal political conflicts in elections and in the media. America's insane campaign finance system—and its companion philanthropic infrastructure focused on obscure partisan demands and culture war politics—allows virtually unchecked money to fuel ideologically distorted politics with few standards, boundaries, or accountability measures.

A future politics worthy of public attention must develop its own funding mechanisms—from small donors to big charitable arms—committed to nation-first public policy, fair and impartial news gathering and reporting, and robust political debate across the ideological spectrum that focuses on practical and innovative ideas for fixing America's problems.

Rather than embark on quixotic third-party runs, or get distracted by social media vanity projects by rich eccentrics, patriotic Americans should commit themselves this presidential cycle to developing a parallel political universe—a political universe actually tethered to reality and good governance that is separate from the tumult of daily partisan combat; one that is focused on supporting multiple voices and platforms that feature accurate reporting and measured debate about major national issues.

TLP is planning to do its small part in this venture (starting this June) by tracking public attitudes about how the two parties are doing across 10 separate aspects of domestic and international policy, in what



we're calling the "Patriot Index". The index will explore which party is better addressing a range of national concerns—or if neither one is up to the task according to Americans. The components include:

- Building up America's manufacturing capacity
- Ensuring American energy independence
- Protecting American interests around the world
- Maintaining a strong military and defense
- Being culturally moderate and not extreme
- Being patriotic
- Fighting crime and ensuring public safety
- Taking on China in a smart manner
- Protecting people's individual rights
- Standing up for free speech and freedom of religion

People with a different perspective than TLP's liberal nationalism should likewise set-up their own political networks to examine our nation's core challenges and propose ideas to ensure that everyone in America is able to live well and succeed. Together, perhaps these new cross-ideological ventures can start to develop an alternative civic model aimed at engaging the millions of Americans who care little for contemporary politics.

The 2024 election need not be an expensive drag that everyone tunes out. We can create a politics that is genuinely worthy of public attention—if we put our minds to the project and dedicate more substantial resources to help it succeed.

To subscribe to The Liberal Patriot newsletter visit [www.liberalpatriot.com](http://www.liberalpatriot.com)

To read past editions of The Liberal Patriot, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.

# Good Day, Neighbor

Democracy

Dorothea Mordan

## Part 1: Representation

The United States of America is celebrating its birthday soon, a worthy time to reflect on points in history that bring big changes.

Much recorded history exists about the American Revolution and the creation of our Constitution, a covenant between the Colonies to form a Union of States. It is all available to read via any public library, or the internet. The Colonists and the King experienced many years of disputes and insults, small and large, building to an irreconcilable situation—taxation without representation.

In this history there are a few well documented big moments that sealed the decision for individual Founding Fathers to rebel against the King. One such was Benjamin Franklin's appearance before the Privy Council in London 1774.

By this time he was known as Dr. Franklin because of honorary doctorates for his scientific accomplishments from the University of St. Andrews and the University of Oxford. He was a prolific writer of commentary, had the job of American Postmaster, appointed by the British Crown, and

was anxious to use his connections at home in America, and he was in London to be a liaison between fed up colonists and an immovable monarch. About a year earlier, a member of Parliament had given Franklin letters written by the Crown-appointed governor of Massachusetts, Thomas Hutchinson. Hutchinson's letters outlined in detail how the King could subjugate the colonies with taxes and other penalties. Franklin sent the letters to an associate in Massachusetts, hoping to show that the King was being advised by Hutchinson, and maybe calm the revolutionary fever. And, he added, please don't publish them. You can guess how that turned out. Almost instantly, there was a petition from the colonists to have Hutchinson replaced.

Government officials in England were furious that a governor's letter had been made public. When it came out that Franklin was the one who leaked the letters, there was a call for him to come to the hearing for the petition to remove Hutchinson. The British officials running the hearing had a different purpose. There was no hearing on the merits of the petition or complaints about the Governor. The entire event focused on accusations of Franklin misusing personal letters (they weren't) and

fomenting rebellion (he wasn't, yet). While Franklin stood absolutely still, one major player, solicitor general Alexander Wedderburn, spent an hour ridiculing Franklin and his character. There was no discussion of the complaints regarding the intentions of the governor. There was, again, no room for representation.

You can look at this from multiple points of view—taxation without representation, royal overreach. It was also a good old fashioned shunning. A cancellation, one of the oldest and simplest ways to thin the herd with which one has to engage.

It took the rest of 1774 for Franklin to organize his return to America. He arrived ready to articulate the concept of representation, and inspire revolution.

The American revolution happened because the colonies lacked representation in the British parliament. Not because their representation "sucked". The leadership of the colonies made compromises with each other to form a covenant, our Constitution.

One of the freedoms won for us is the First Amendment. Freedom of Speech is the freedom to tell our individual stories. Big or little. Famous or not.

There have always been people who want to control who gets to tell their own story. Right now there are people who would ban books, based on their personal opinion of who gets

to tell their own story. In Frederick County, at least one Board of Education committee has been formed to literally read through books to determine whether to ban them.

Banning books is the dissemination of information without representation. Rebellion against book bans is a worthy endeavor. Banning books breaks our covenant with each other to give everyone a voice—to be represented.

Our country is today a place once again where factions want to control the rest of the population, or split the country. Whether it is telling people what they can read or another issue, this is more than shunning. It is breaking our covenant to give every citizen a voice.

The Founding Fathers did envision where we are now. We are exactly in one of the scenarios they envisioned. One faction wanting another to disappear. The Founding Fathers came from England and had direct family experience with two factions in their own country—Catholics and Church of England Protestants—who were killing each other since the reign of Henry VIII in the 16th century. Our founding fathers understood how to create a government flexible enough that we can save it. It has taken two over hundred years to approach the promise of the Constitution for all Americans. That is how we save it—continue to be inclusive.

We keep coming back to the middle ground, our melting pot. We live in the middle because that's where a real life happens. Where you're able to have a conversation with your neighbor, go to the store, go to school, go to work. You give room to everybody else to go to work, go to school, raise their kids. The world wants, needs, and, in the United States of America, actually has a place that cares about the rights of everyone to live in the middle.

We embrace it because it includes us, because in a melting pot no one gets shunned completely. You might make and lose friends. But with our melting pot of ideas, and regional and local cultures, there is always possibility for renewal.

We embrace the middle because when the rhythm life is flowing well, we have time to read books, lots and lots of books.

There are effective ways to work within the community to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July birthday of our Constitutional Covenant, support its principles, and our neighbors—participate. Show up for your community, get comprehensive history and civics classes prioritized in middle and high school, and don't forget to vote.

To learn more about Walkersville's own Dorothea, visit her site at [chandlerdesignslimited.com](http://chandlerdesignslimited.com).

# PASTOR'S DESK

## The "What Ifs" are coming

**Pastor Jay Petrellia**  
Graceham Moravian Church

Often this column is written by a local pastor such as myself and typically contains something thoughtful, educational, inspirational and/or uplifting. I'll attempt to get there myself in a moment, but before I do, allow me to try and scare you. I should be able to do it with just two words. I recommend you make sure your shoes are strapped on tight so you don't jump out of them, and that you read this during the daytime when there are fewer shadows casting about and not so many mysterious noises. Are you ready? Here are the two scariest words. "What if?"

There. It's over. Are you still with me? Great, we made it through that together. Take a breath and let's continue. That was a joke obviously but sort of not really. The words, the phrase "what if," can paralyze us in fear. Even the biggest, meanest, most rugged among us cower when it comes to mind. Don't believe me? Take a few moments and think about the "what ifs" currently on your heart and mind.

What if I get sick? What if my loved one doesn't get better? What if I lose my job? What if I fail? What if I'm not good enough? What if an enemy attacks? What if I'm robbed? What if I'm wrong? What if I'm right but everyone believes I'm wrong? What if reality isn't what I perceive it to be? What if disaster, natural or otherwise, strikes? What if I've gone too far, did too many bad things to have any hope at a better life now? What if I bomb this job interview?

What if my investment tanks and I lose all our money? &c. &c.

Are you scared yet? I think the fearsome "what ifs" lurk deep within all of us from time to time and they will haunt us to the point of destroying our lives if we let them.

I wonder if there are any fans of the show Doctor Who reading this article? Doctor Who is a long running, British, science fiction television show. It first aired in 1963. I personally only watched the show during Matt Smith's tenure as the Doctor, but what I did see out of all those decades of episodes I really enjoyed.

Anyway, I mention the good Doctor because the "what ifs" remind me of a particularly terrifying villain on that show called the Weeping Angels. The Weeping Angels appear often, though not always, as human-like, stone statues. Picture a human sized winged angel in flowing robes, carved out of stone. They look like ordinary stone statues, but they can move very quickly to attack their victims. The trouble is, you never see them move. They only move when you aren't looking at them, say when you turn to try and run away. Like a cat stalking you from around a corner. Every time you look at them you notice they have gained ground on you despite your best efforts to run away, until they're upon you, touch you and drain your life out of you. Creepy.

The "what ifs" manner of stalking and capturing its prey is like that of the Weeping Angels, but opposite. The creepy statues run you down when you're not looking. However, the "what ifs"

seem to stalk us and pose a threat when we look at them. When we pay attention to them. When our back is to them, they seem to have less power over us.

What do I mean? Well, for instance, study after study has shown that the more one is exposed to 24 hour news networks, the more anxious, fear-filled, paranoid, angry and depressed one gets. The reason is simple. For the sake of ratings, to keep people watching, they parade an seemingly endless supply of bad news in front of us, and our attention gobbles it up. The "what ifs" grab us and consume us. "What if politician X does Y?!" "Did you see what that criminal did over there? What if there are people in my community like them?" "What if that person or people are coming to ruin my life?!"

Similarly, study after study has shown people who consume a large amount of social media, often end up fearful, anxious and/or depressed. Over on Facetubegram, people can see an endless stream of people on private yachts, tropical beaches, mucking about in nicer homes, driving super expensive cars and so forth. Even if you're watching friends and family on those sites it can give you a skewed sense of reality, because no one is posting the boring day in day out mundane moments of their lives. I've heard it said it's like comparing your day to day life with someone else's highlight reel. This is easy pickin's for the "what ifs". As we watch this endless supply of media some start to wonder, "What if I'm a failure as I don't, and will never, have all those nice things?" "What if my life is meaningless, empty, over before



it began?" "Look at all those fun, beautiful people traveling the world and having the times of their lives while I have to stay home and deal with a broken water heater. What if I missed the best times of my life?"

Well, one of the best things to do if the "what if" monsters are barreling down on you is to turn your back on them. Obviously we shouldn't ignore blatantly dangerous situations, or cruel injustices. Don't take my illustration too far. But most of the "what ifs" we encounter only pose a threat to our mental and spiritual health, and even then, only if we allow them to take up residence in our minds.

Which brings me to my point. All of our imagined fears, anxieties and worries only hurt us by robbing us of our peace. When we are not at peace, we are not able to make the best decisions, or speak the wisest

words, or forgive our enemies, love our neighbors, or even rest in God's presence. Our alarms are going off. Our defenses are up. We're paranoid about attacks from unseen enemies, so we see evil intentions in everyone, even doubting ourselves. As followers of Christ, we are to be sheep resting before cool streams of water having been led there by our Great Shepherd. If we're not careful the "what ifs" will lead us away from those peaceful waters and have us dressed in camo, hiding in the bushes, eating caffeine pills like tic-tacs and chewing our fingernails while watching out for an imagined enemy that we think will attack at any moment.

In life we can experience joys so profound we can't put them into words, and pains greater than we ever thought were possible to feel. Yet, through those times and all the times in between we'll find God, our Creator, Savior and Sustainer right by our side. So there is no reason to get ahead of ourselves and pay the "what if's" any mind. Whatever the future holds, wherever life takes us we can be at peace knowing God will be there too to see us through. Turn off the news. Log off Instatokbook and let Jesus lead you to still waters, restoring your soul. Be at peace friends.

*To learn more about Graceham's Moravian Church visit them on line at [www.gracehammoravian.org](http://www.gracehammoravian.org), or better yet, join them for Sunday service.*

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~~~~~  
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~~~~~  
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# THE BOOK OF DAYS

## Henry Hudson, The Navigator



This ill-fated mariner was one of the most remarkable of our great English navigators of Elizabethan age, yet his history previous to the year 1607, when he sailed on his first recorded voyage, is entirely unknown. The Dutch appear to have invented, in order to support their claim to New Netherlands, a history of his previous life, according to which he had passed a part of it in the service of Holland; but this is not believed by the best modern writers on the subject.

We first find Henry Hudson, in the year just mentioned, a captain in the service of the Muscovy Company, whose trade was carried on principally with the North, and who did not yet despair of increasing it by the discovery of a passage to China by the north-east or by the north-west. Hudson laboured with a rare energy to prove the truth or fallacy of their hopes, and he was at least successful in showing that some of them were delusive: and he would no doubt have done much more, had he not been cut off in the midst of his career. He acted first on a plan which had been proposed by an English navigator, named Robert Thorne, as early as the year 1527—that of sailing right across the north pole: and he left London for this voyage on the 23rd of April 1607.

Among his companions was his son, John Hudson, who is described in the log-book as 'a boy,' and who seems to have accompanied his father in all his expeditions. He sailed by way

of Greenland towards Spitzbergen, and in his progress met with the now well-known ice-barrier between those localities, and he was the first modern navigator who sailed along it. He eventually reached the coast of Spitzbergen, but after many efforts to overcome the difficulties which presented themselves in his way, he was obliged to abandon the hope of reaching the pole; and, after convincing himself that that route was impracticable, he returned home. In the following year (1608) Hudson sailed from London with the design of ascertaining the possibility of reaching China by the north-east, and, as we may now suppose, was again unsuccessful.

After his return from this voyage, Hudson was invited by the Dutch East India Company, and it was in their service that he made his third voyage. Sailing with two ships, manned partly by Dutch and partly by English sailors, he on the 5th of May reached the North Cape. It was originally intended to renew the search for a north-east passage, but in consequence of a mutiny amongst his crew when near Nova Zembla, he abandoned this plan, and sailed west-ward to seek a passage through America. He had received vague information of the existence of the great inland lakes, and imagined that they might indicate a passage by sea through the mainland of America. It was on this voyage that he discovered the great river, which has since borne his name: but his hopes

were again disappointed, and he returned to England.

The indefatigable navigator had now formed a design of seeking a passage by what has been named after him, Hudson's Straits: and in 1610 he started from London in a ship named the Discovery. During the period between the middle of July and the first days of August he passed through Hudson's Straits, and on the 4th of the latter month he entered the great bay which, from the name of its discoverer, has ever since been called Hudson's Bay. The months of August, September, and October were spent in exploring the southern coast of this bay, until, at the beginning of November, Hudson took up his winter quarters in what is supposed to have been the south-east corner of James's Bay. Hudson did not leave these winter quarters until the June of the following year, and his departure was followed by the melancholy events which we have now to relate.

We have no reason for believing that Hudson was a harsh-tempered man: but his crew appears to have been composed partly of men of wild and desperate characters, who could only be kept in order by very severe discipline. Before leaving England he had felt it necessary to send away a man named Colburne, who appears to have been appointed as his second in command, and while wandering about the southern coasts of Hudson's Bay, signs of insubordination had manifested themselves on more than one occasion, and had required all Hudson's energy to suppress them.

The principal leader of the discontented was an individual who had experienced great personal kindnesses from Henry Hudson. This was a young man named Henry Green, who had been abandoned by his relatives for his extravagance and ill-conduct. Finding that this Green could write well, and believing that he would be otherwise useful, Hudson took him out with him on his voyage as a sort of supernumerary, for he was not entered on the books of the company who sent out the ship, and had therefore no wages: but Hudson gave him provisions and lodgings in the ship as his personal attendant.

In the beginning of the voyage Green quarreled with several of the crew, and made himself otherwise disagreeable: but the favour of the captain saved him from the consequences, and he seems to have gradually gained the respect of the sailors for his reckless bravery. While the ship was locked up in the ice for the winter, the carpenter greatly provoked Hudson by refusing to obey his orders to build a timber hut on shore. When the carpenter chose to go on shore to shoot wild fowl, as it had been ordered that nobody should go away from the ship alone, Green, who had been industriously exciting the men against their captain, went with him.

Hudson, who had perhaps received some intimation of his treacherous behaviour, was angry at his acting in this contemptuous manner, and shewed his displeasure in a way which embittered Green's resentment. Under these circumstances, it was not difficult to excite discontent among the men, for it seems to have been the first time that any of them had passed a winter in the ice, and they were not very patient under its rigour, for some of them were entirely disabled by the frost. One day, at the close of the winter, when the greater part of the crew were to go out a-fishing in the shallop (a large two-masted boat), Green plotted with others to seize the shallop, sail away with it, and leave the captain and a few disabled men in the ship: but this plot was defeated by a different arrangement made accidentally by Hudson.

The conspiracy against the latter was now ripe, and Prickett, who was evidently more consenting to it than he is willing to acknowl-

edge, tells us that when night approached, on the eve of the 21st of June, Green and Wilson, the new boat-swain, came to him where he lay lame in his cabin, and told him 'that they and the rest and their associates would shift the company and turne the master and all the sicke men into the shallop, and let them shift for themselves.'

This was the last that was ever seen or heard of Henry Hudson and his companions in misfortune. Most of them cripples, in consequence of the severity of the winter, without provisions, or means of procuring them, they must soon have perished in this inhospitable climate.

The fate of the mutineers was not much better. For some time they wandered among coasts with which they were unacquainted, ran short of provisions, and failed in their attempts to gain a sufficient supply by fishing or shooting; and for some time seem to have lived upon little more than 'cockle-grass.'

Thus perished this great but ill-fated navigator. Yet the name of the apparently obscure Englishman has survived not only in one of the most important rivers of the new continent, in the Strait through which he passed, and in the bay in which he wintered and perished, and the results of his voyages have been still more remarkable, for he not only bequeathed to his native country the fur-trade of the territory but he gave to the Dutch that North American colony which, having afterwards fallen into the hands of England, developed itself into the United States.

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# ECOLOGY

## Mild winter = ticks and biting insects

**Anne Gageby**  
Environmental Education Manager  
Strawberry Hill

The last hard frost is finally behind us despite this year's vacillating slide into spring. It's been an interesting year, weather-wise. The deep freeze of December melted into a fairly mild winter overall. The lack of steady freezing temps creates a perfect opportunity for insect populations to endure and come back with a vengeance in spring.

Biting insects are already riding in on the tide of warmer weather. This is an unwelcome shift for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. Ticks, mosquitoes, midges, and other biting insects have come into their season after a winter spent buried beneath leaf litter and occasional snow. And what a season it will be. By all accounts, we're looking at a record year for ticks and biting insects. I found a tick on me back in the middle of March, far earlier than I would normally expect. And the mosquitoes have long since made their spring debut. These vector species can carry a wide array of diseases that affect human and animal populations alike. Not every disease is zoonotic though, meaning some diseases are not transmissible between animals and humans. Even still, plenty of animal-specific diseases are worrisome for other reasons.

Two viruses of concern within the deer population specifically

are Bluetongue Virus and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease. Both are most common during the late summer and early fall and are spread via midges, also known as no-see-ums. Bluetongue Virus and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease are known to cause general Hemorrhagic Disease (HD) which brings a wide variety of symptoms and can have a mortality rate of up to 70 percent depending on the location and specific animal population. Fortunately, neither Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease nor Bluetongue Virus are known to infect humans.

Back in September, the Game Commission put out information for hunters after an outbreak of Hemorrhagic Disease in Lebanon and Lancaster counties. As we head toward summer, landowners and outdoor enthusiasts should be aware of both viruses that cause Hemorrhagic Disease and keep an eye out for signs of them as the weather gets warmer. Signs of infection include fever, small hemorrhages or bruising in the nose and mouth as well as swelling of the head, tongue, neck, and lips. Deer may appear emaciated and have sloughing hooves. Deer infected with EHD may also appear dehydrated and will often seek out water sources. Multiple dead deer in one location, especially by water, should be reported to the Game Commission as this could be a sign of an outbreak.

Because of the mild winter, we can expect the midge population



**Deer ticks (also called black-legged ticks) can carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. Thanks to this year's warm winter, this could be the worst tick season ever.**

to explode this year, potentially bringing about higher cases of Hemorrhagic Disease. Naïve deer populations could be impacted due to their lack of prior infection. From a wildlife management perspective, vector control could be possible but would be a significant challenge. Climate change is adding additional pressure to wildlife management practices, making controlling vector populations that much more difficult. For these reasons, monitoring and tracking are critical to management.

If Hemorrhagic Disease is no threat to humans, then why should people keep an eye out for suspicious deer? Unfortunately, the answer to this question involves a much larger discussion about the state of deer populations in our area. Deer already face habitat loss, predation, and a number of other threats. When we calculate environmental stressors and add in deadly diseases such as Hemorrhagic Disease, the final result could be catastrophic for local herds. Here on the East Coast, Hemorrhagic Disease is one of the most common diseases in white-tailed populations. An outbreak can cause a significant number of deaths. And as we've seen numerous times over the last two centuries, when one species

declines, others are significantly impacted. Our ecosystem is a delicate set of dominos in which every animal is important.

So what can average citizens do? It starts with monitoring. The public plays a vital role in the surveillance of wildlife. When incidents of sick, injured, or dead animals are reported, it provides the Game Commission an opportunity to collect and test samples for any number of wildlife diseases. Hemorrhagic Disease occurs with some regularity within Pennsylvania specifically and the Game Commission tracks it closely, both when and where exactly it's occurring. Tracking also allows the Game Commission to identify which strains are predominant.

Hemorrhagic Disease has been found in most states except for areas in the Southwest and extreme Northeast. While there are a number of common animal hosts white-tailed deer are the most susceptible. Other host species include pronghorn antelope and bighorn sheep. While elk can be infected with Hemorrhagic Disease, they are not as susceptible as white-tailed deer. Of the two main viruses which cause Hemorrhagic Disease, Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease is not common in domestic animals while Bluetongue Virus is well-known in cattle, sheep, and goats.

Neither BTV nor EHD are transmissible to humans but BTV can be transmissible to some animals such as dogs.

Farmers and those who raise these animals would be right to be concerned about either virus infecting their animals. There is a limited risk if farm animals share the same space as infected deer. Domestic animal owners should keep this and many other wildlife diseases on their radar. When disease is spread by an insect vector, control is a challenge. Being smart and keeping wildlife away from domestic animals (and vice versa) reduces disease transmission risk.

Looking toward summer, the public should keep in mind that peak vector (midge) season is late summer into early fall. Outbreaks are more common during that time of year. However, as mild as the winter was, it's a good idea to keep a careful eye on animals under your care or that you may encounter in the wild. Wildlife health incidents such as suspected cases of Hemorrhagic Disease should be reported to the Game Commission by calling 833-PGC-WILD (742-9453) or online through the Wildlife Health Survey tool.

To read other Ecology articles, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.



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# IN THE COUNTRY

## Preventing raptor road-kill

Tim Iverson  
Cunningham Falls State Park  
Seasonal Naturalist

Believe it or not it had been a rather pleasant afternoon commute up 270-N. I had been following the same sedan for some miles now. As any good driver does my eyes made the circuit from looking ahead through the windshield, up to the rearview mirror, over to the side view mirrors, and every now and again to check the time and speed I was going. After one of these rounds I make it back to staring forward, and I catch a glimpse of a hand fling something out of the driver's side window. The yellow and slender skin with arms flailing in the wind made it abundantly clear what they had tossed aside. It couldn't have been anything other than a banana peel. Big deal you might be asking yourself. Well, I am here to tell you that it IS a big deal.

At seven state parks across Maryland there are aviaries housing injured wildlife that will never be able to return to the wild because they can no longer care for themselves as the result of human caused injuries. The closest to our area is located at Cunningham Falls State Park. Within this aviary are animals, most of who have been hit by cars. These accidents could largely be avoidable. Most think of roadside litter as trash bags, empty fast food bags, cups and containers, and other kinds of junk. When presented with the idea of banana peels or apple cores or other natural and biodegradable things they think it's perfectly natural and fine to toss them aside as they please. However, this is not the case. The raptors living in Maryland Park Service aviaries can provide ample evidence as to why.

Let's meet a Red Tailed Hawk for just a minute. This beautiful bird of prey is the largest hawk that lives in Maryland. This bird prefers wide open spaces, primarily fields. In fact, if we're being honest this is probably one species

that has benefited from deforestation and development. They feast on small mammals like mice, rabbits, squirrels, and smaller birds in their territory. You can often see them sitting on the sides of roadways. They're usually perched upon telephone poles, over head lights, or signs. They are naturally drawn to these areas because of high perch places, and the abundance of prey.

You see rodents are naturally attracted to any type of food trash. It doesn't matter if that fast food bag is empty or not, because it still smells like French fries and burgers. Empty wrappers still retain the scent of whatever food they packaged as well. Banana peels, apple cores, or other food waste will still attract prey like mice to the sides of roadways in search of a quick meal. Red-tailed Hawks, and other birds of prey, know this and will wait for prey to arrive. Then when the moment is right they'll strike. They swoop down from on high to claim their catch. Often times though it's not that simple. They are competing with the tumult of traffic which can be chaos to process for wildlife. Raptors frequently are struck by cars in the process of hunting. In most cases these birds are killed on impact. A lucky few who do survive and make it to medical assistance in time may be able to fully recover and be rereleased to the wild. However, the majority of those who are hit and survive will not be able to go back. These reasons can vary: wing amputations, which makes flight impossible; brain damage, which makes hunting and survival impossible; or loss of vision in one or both eyes, which makes hunting, flying, and surviving difficult to impossible.

For those birds that are fortunate enough to survive, but cannot survive on their own will be placed in zoos and aviaries

throughout the county. The Maryland Park Service has a program called Scales & Tales which cares for and houses wildlife like this. Scales & Tales is an environmental education program that provides people the opportunity to see these wild animals up close. By relating the "tale" or story of the animals the Maryland Park Service can reach out to the public and educate them on environmental issues of concern. These issues range from environmental pollution, climate change, habitat and resource loss, invasive species, and more. There are a few ways people can help these animals as well as wildlife.

The first way is by visiting these aviaries, parks, and wild spaces in general. By raising your awareness you are likely to make lasting lifestyle changes and be able to spread the message to others. Scales & Tales also has an adoption program that allows you to symbolically "adopt" these animals, and the money goes towards their care and well being. The best way to help them is to help prevent unnecessary injuries from happening in the first place. Practicing Leave No Trace is a great way to start.

Leave No Trace is a non-profit organization and a set of principles or ethics regarding how we use and treat the great outdoors. These seven ideas are easy to follow and very reasonable. They are:

Plan Ahead & Prepare – Make sure you pack all necessary food, gear, etc. Know your way so you don't get lost. Most importantly, plan for how to pack your waste and bring it back with you

Travel/Camp on Durable Surfaces – When you hike or camp off of specific or regulated areas you destroy vegetation that prevents rain runoff and destroy habitat by expanding human impact

Dispose of Waste Properly – If



Red Tailed Hawks are often killed while hunting for rodents attracted to litter thrown from cars.

you brought it there, then make sure you bring it back.

Leave What You Find – This way another passerby can experience what you did

Minimize Campfire Impacts – If there are existing fire rings then use them! Otherwise the woods will be pockmarked with blackened scorched earth

Respect Wildlife – Respect all wildlife, but remember some wildlife can be venomous or dangerous so if you don't respect them they will not respect you.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors – You'd hate it if you were soaking up the beauty of the outdoors and someone was being loud, rude, and disruptive. Don't do it to someone else.

Leave No Trace can usually be summed up by the adage, "Take only pictures, leave only footprints." By practicing these principles in all of our outdoor affairs we can assure that every one of us

can always enjoy what the wild lands have to offer. Just like you try to take care of your personal stuff, we need to take care of our collective stuff. Throwing the banana peel out instead of waiting to find a trash can is reckless. It endangers wildlife by setting them up for disaster. When this happens often enough the scavengers eating it become accustomed to the food source, and may starve when or if it is no longer available. The simple act of just waiting a few more minutes is well worth the investment to preserve the independent and natural order of things. I once saw a road sign while working for the National Park Service in Big Bend Texas that I think I'd like to leave you with – Litterin' is unLAWFUL! Make sure the impact you leave behind is a positive one.

To read other articles by Tim Iverson visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.

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## REAL SCIENCE

# Diet supplements

Michael Rosenthal

I've written before about food supplements. Some are useless, some are harmless, and some are dangerous. Consumer Reports published an article recently on food supplements that is a good update on what supplements are not only of no value but are risky to health. These findings are the result of consultation with a panel of experienced doctors and researchers, and written by Lisa L. Gill. One generality that arose was the finding that risk increases with a larger dosage and the longer the supplement is taken. Unapproved or illegal ingredients should be watched or, such as tianeptine, methylsynephrine and phenibut. I am going to summarize the findings here as stated in Consumer Reports by Lisa Gill.

Chaparral, also called creosote bush, greasewood, Larrea divaricate, Larea tridentata, or lar-reastat. It is claims to benefit weight loss, ease inflammation, and treat colds, infections, rashes, and even cancers. It has been found to cause kidney problems and liver damage.

Coltsfoot, also called coughwort, Farfarae folium leaf, foalswort, or Tussilageo farfara claims to relieve cough, sore throat, laryngitis, bronchitis, and asthma.

It has been found to be a possible carcinogen and may cause liver damage.

Comfrey, also known as blackwort, bruisewort, slippery root, or Symphytum officinale claims to relieve cough, heavy menstrual period, stomach problems, chest pain, and has been a cancer treatment. It has been found to be potential carcinogen itself and can cause liver damage.

Germander, also called Teucrium chanaedrys or Teucrium viscidum, claims to benefit weight loss, alleviate fever, arthritis, gout, and stomach problems. It is found to cause liver damage or hepatitis in some cases.

Greater celandine, also called celandine or Chelidonium majus, claims to alleviate stomach ache but may cause liver damage.

Kava, also known as ava pepper, kava kava, or Piper methysticum, claims to ease anxiety and help achieve sleep. Potential harm includes liver damage, exacerbation of Parkinson's Disease, and impairs vehicle driving.

Lobelia, also called asthma weed, Lobelia inflata, vomit wort, or wild tobacco, claims to help respiratory problems, and support smoking cessation. Potential harms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tremors, rapid heartbeat, confusion, seizures, hypothermia, and coma.

Pennyroyal oil, also called Hede-

oma pulegioides, and Mentha pulegium. Pennyroyal oil, also called Hedeoma pulegioides or Mentha pulegium, claims to improve breathing problems and digestive disorders. Potential harms include liver and kidney failure, nerve damage, and convulsions.

Usnic acid, also called beard moss, tree moss, or usnea claims to benefit weight loss, and offer pain relief. Potential harm is liver injury.

Yohimbe, also called Johimbi, Pausinytalia yohimbe, yohimbine, or Corynanthe johimbi, claims to benefit low libido and erectile dysfunction, depression and obesity. Potential harms include raising of blood pressure, rapid heart rate, headaches, seizures, liver and kidney problems, heart problems, and panic attacks.

I like to report on the energy sources used to generate electricity for our region as reported periodically by Potomac Edison. In the report for 2022, gas provided 40.08 percent of our energy. Nuclear sources produced 32.69 % of our energy, and coal provided 20.16 % of our energy. The total renewable energy provided was only 6.76%. Smaller amounts of energy were provided by non-renewable fuel cells, oil and renewable energy such as captured methane gas (.21%), hydroelectric (.99%), solar energy (1.11%), energy from solid waste (.48%), wind (3.79%) and energy from wood and other biomass (.19%).

Also reported are air emissions, in units of pounds per megawatt-hour of electricity generated. Not surprisingly the major emitter is carbon dioxide at 810.84 pounds per megawatt hour of electricity generated followed by 0.44 pounds per megawatt-hour of sulfur dioxide and 0.33 pounds per megawatt-hour of electricity generated of nitrogen oxides.



Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas which may contribute to global climate changes. Sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides react in the atmosphere to form acid rain. Nitrogen oxides also react to form ground level ozone, a component of smog.

California has once again taken the lead in seeking carbon neutrality by moving to eliminate gas-burning power plants. This matter was reported in the Washington Post on November 17, 2022. The state is moving toward finding ways to discourage power plants that burn gas. It is not clear to me whether the ban is still in the works or has been instituted, but there is definitely the strong feeling in California that would support the ban on construction of new gas-burning power plants. If this is successful, planet warming emissions could fall some 85 percent below their 1990 levels!

Governor Gavin Newsom favors the proposal, comparing it in magnitude to the industrial revolution. Agreement with the plan has not been unanimous, some people feeling it was too risky and others not confident it was strong enough. One of the things that slows down such advances is a fear of blackouts.

Proposals have been made to build new battery systems that can store energy during the day to use at night if blackouts occur, especially on hot summer nights. There seems to be agreement that the old plants will remain in operation, but a ban would be introduced for construction of any new natural gas plants, even those with a more modern technology that would reduce emission. There has also been a ban on new sales of natural gas heaters. There is not any proposal to close down all gas burning operations, as it would be too much of an impact on day-to-day life. The plan would prevent new applications utilizing natural gas to be implemented. In principle I certainly agree with a plan to eliminate gas-burning as a source of energy. Implementation the plan will however require patience and cooperation and technological innovation.

To read past editions of Science Matters, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.



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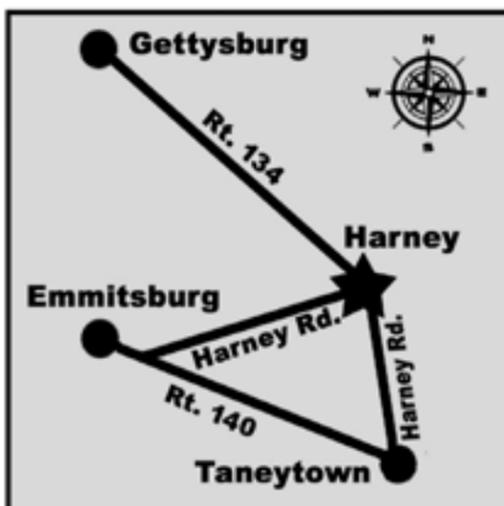
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## THE MASTER GARDENER

# Gardening practices & the water quality of the Bay

Amy Rembold  
Frederick County Master Gardener

“Do unto those downstream as you would have those upstream do unto you.”—Wendell Berry, American novelist and environmental activist. Did you ever realize that the way you use water and chemicals up here in Frederick County affects the quality of water down in the Chesapeake Bay?

Since it takes us about an hour to drive to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge from Frederick, it is easy to believe that what we do here in Frederick County does not affect the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay; however, almost everyone in Frederick County lives within a half-mile of a water source, and every one of those creeks, streams, and rivers in Frederick County is part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, meaning that anything that runs off our lawns and gardens—pesticides, fertilizers, erosion, and many more—eventually reaches the Bay.

In 2022, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation released its biannual report card of the Chesapeake Bay, and the score was a D+; no change from the last report. Some scores went up, while others went down. For example, in 2022, the Bay-

wide crab dredge was the lowest it has been in its 33-year history. The price of crabs last summer was high, and most of those crabs were not coming from the Bay, due to moratoriums on harvest.

Although the Foundation’s rating of the Bay health is discouraging, it’s not too late for all of us re-evaluate our gardening practices and change where needed to help improve the water quality of both our county watershed and the Bay’s watershed.

First, just observe your landscape after a rainstorm. Do you see water moving down into the street or storm drain? Think of ways you could slow this water, such as moving a downspout’s direction with extenders or creating a rain garden with native plants, so that the water has time to soak back into the ground and not into the street.

Second, think of your landscape as a habitat. When you look across your yard, are you only seeing green? Grass is a monoculture that provides no nutrition to pollinators or insects, and without insects, the birds have nothing to feed themselves or their babies. In addition, the root system of grass is so shallow that in a prolonged drought (Remember the stories about the “dust bowl”

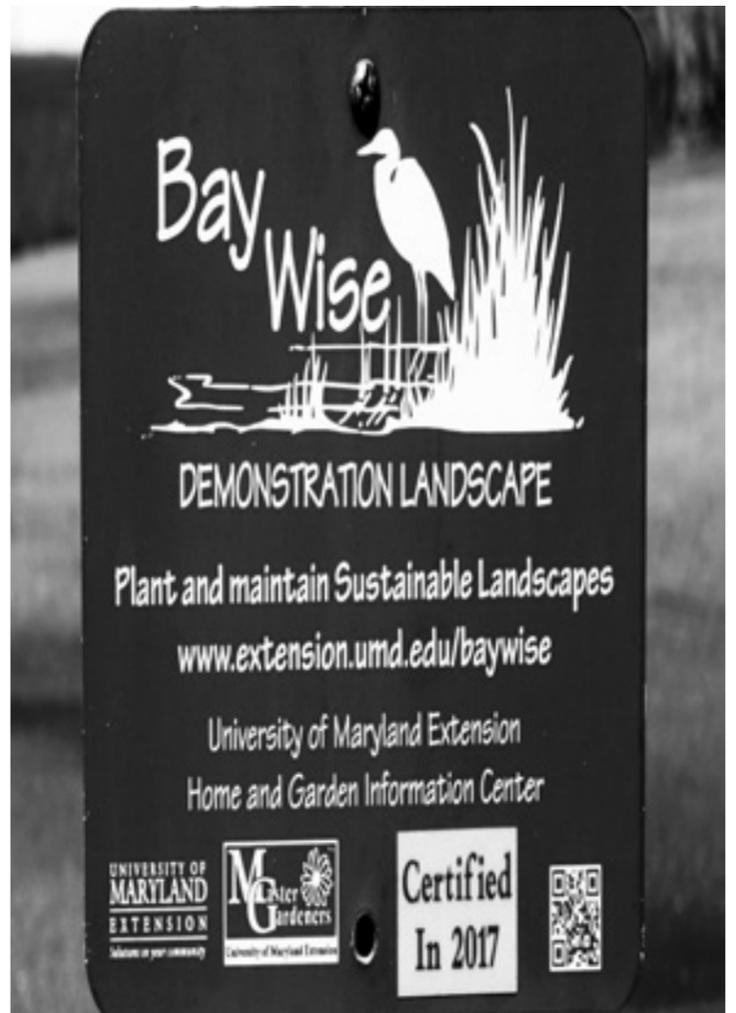
of the 1930s?) it will easily die; on the other hand, native plants have deep root systems that help them survive better.

Also, think about the amount of time (mowing, weed-whacking), money (chemicals) that we spend, and the water that we use to have that perfect green space. The alternative is to add native plants, which can provide color, require little to no fertilizers, and when established are considerably cheaper, less work, and provide the habitats that our native insects and birds need to survive.

Third, you don’t have to get rid of all your grass landscape. There are ways to help the Bay: by cutting your grass less often, letting your grass grow 3-4 inches tall before cutting, and replacing small areas that are hard to mow with native plots, you are well on your way to helping the Bay.

We all feel that we are judged by how our gardens/landscape look and that we must follow the guidelines set by our neighbors, community, and HOAs. However, in October 2021, the Maryland Senate passed House Bill 322, which compels HOAs and other organizations to allow “low-impact landscaping” such as rain gardens, native plant gardens, pollinator gardens and xeriscaping in subdivisions. It forbids HOAs to require “cultivated vegetation consisting whole or in part of turf grass.”

Sometimes the best way to let neighbors know about your lawn and garden eco-friendly practices is through a sign in your yard. The Frederick County Master Gardeners offers Bay Wise and Pollinator certification programs. The Bay-Wise certification is for both landscapes and vegetable gardens and shows that your garden practices help promote the water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.



The Pollinator certification indicates you are providing the necessary habitat in your garden for pollinators to have food, water, and shelter.

Even if you are not interested in the certification, the applications have many ideas to help you do your part in protecting the Bay. The Bay-Wise application, “Bay-Wise Maryland Yardstick,” provides links to landscape planning and management where you’ll find information on how to design a landscape for sustainability, stormwater management, designs with native plants, how to manage insect communities, and many more.

The Pollinator-Friendly applica-

tion for certification gives you lists of pollinator-friendly trees, bushes, and perennials, both native and non-native plants, just asking you in various sections of the application to identify two to four plants you may already have in your yard. It also asks you to, among other things, identify water, shelter, and habitat sources that you make available for the pollinators that frequent your yard.

Please contact the Frederick Master Gardeners with your questions at 301-600-1596; get applications for both the Bay-Wise and the Pollinator certifications at [www.extension.umd.edu/locations/frederick-county/home-gardening](http://www.extension.umd.edu/locations/frederick-county/home-gardening).

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## Small Town Gardener

Five ways to unlock your garden code

Marianne Willburn

When we fall hard for a plant, we focus all of our desire on it. We vow to give it all it ever needs, even if we know it's unsuited to our soil, our exposure, or our climate in general. We act unreasonably, but reason isn't a part of the falling in love process.

We get the plant and we coddle it. We try to acidify a few square feet of soil around it, we water every day into pure sand, we mix amendments in secret recipes and think we have the answer. And, for a while it may do okay; but when we happen to see the same plant in its favored habitat it's a bit of a shock to realize how poorly our little specimen is really doing. A plant that is surviving is not necessarily thriving.

So, what if we simply planted for the conditions we have?

Heresy! Well at least to the rabid plant hounds out there who have confused love with acquisition. But I'll say what other reasonable visitors to your garden might not be saying until they leave your garden and start to really dish the dirt in the comfort of air conditioning and privacy: Your plant doesn't look its best.

Moreover, the subset of people who care that you just got a rare sedum to make it through another winter in deep shade is probably about 27. Nationwide. You most likely know 14 of them.

Figuring out what our conditions are and matching them carefully to the wealth of flora available to that climate not only increases our chances of success with the plants upon which we spent precious time and money, but it gives us a better understanding and appreciation of our gardens - allowing us to spend less time maintaining them and more time enjoying them.

This doesn't mean that we shouldn't help our plants to do well with better soil or slight environmental changes - it just means that we start with plants that match our overall conditions of soil, moisture, and exposure. Here are five ways to move towards that goal.

Look for the obvious - Your existing garden is already giving you hints. It's time to pay attention. For instance, if you notice that the Rodgersia in one part of your shade garden has gone bonkers, but it's struggling in another area, and you're not favoring the first with a hose, you may have an underlying wet area that you should capitalize on with more moisture lovers like Ligularia. Mean-

while it's time to replace the struggling Rodgersia with dry shade tolerant plant like Rohdea instead. No one needs to water all summer long.

Change your perspective - Let go of what you think you have to have and embrace new possibilities. If "garden" means a cool English spring and gentle summer to you, but you are gardening in what I like to term 'MidAtlantic Jumanji,' it's time to start looking at good regional gardens to see how they cope with a fast, hot spring and a muggier summer. There are incredible plant combinations for every environment. Who needs Melianthus when you can have 12-foot hardy bananas?

Go native - Growing native plants has become extremely popular in recent years for good reason - plants native to your area are not only specifically adapted to your climate, but are intricately connected with the life cycles of native fauna.

A caveat however. Well, two. Just because it's a North American native doesn't mean that it's right for your particular micro-environment. Research the plant's preferred habitat as carefully as you would research exotic plants.

Caveat Number Two: In a changing climate, some of our regional natives aren't keeping up. You can wring your hands and treat your plants like a museum curator, or you can be flexible in your definition of native.

Research native habitats - Understanding the native habitat of a plant can help you unlock its perfect growing 'code.' For instance: Calla lilies originate in the late winter/spring wetlands of South Africa. They love that moisture. But in the late summer and fall, those wetlands often dry up. Consequently, some will respond with a period of dormancy. Keeping them drier at that time might extend the life of the hardiest species in your garden.

Remedy construction destruction - New construction brings with it the challenge of reestablishing everything from soil structure to a general sense of place, but other factors such as moisture levels and exposure are easy to figure out from the beginning. Work toward creating a new topsoil layer as you match new plantings to existing site conditions in soils that have been abused to breaking point. If you're not quite sure what those are, observe the remaining natural areas within your housing community to give you clues as to what was there before the bulldozers came.

Some factors in a garden are easily changed, but for others, you may be hitting your head (and your plant's) against a brick wall. It's so much easier, attractive, and friendlier to the planet if you capitalize on the strengths of your natural environment.

*Marianne is the author of Tropical Plants and How to Love Them, and Big Dreams Small Garden, and gardens from her home in Northern Virginia. Follow her on Instagram at @marianne.willburn.*



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# PETS

## Let's talk about laughter

Jennifer Vanderau  
Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter

It's one of my favorite expressions of which humans are capable.

Studies have shown that laughter is good for the body and I happen to believe that includes the soul as well.

My dad is a firm believer in laughing and has instilled in his kids the ability to joke and laugh and "carry on," as he puts it (although if he's irritated with us at the time, that little two-word phrase can carry a bit of a negative connotation). The longer I live, the more I believe that giving the understanding of and aptitude for laughter is one of his greatest gifts to us.

In fact, if you google "laughter is the best medicine," it's amazing the different research out there that just about proves that. Medical journals and scientific studies abound that say laughter has a physical effect on the body that helps reduce pain and allows us to better tolerate discomfort, as well as lowers blood sugar levels and helps blood vessels.

That's a heck of a list of benefits.

It's fortunate that I tend to surround myself with sources of laughter on a daily basis. For instance, six cats in my house and a host of shelter animals.

My felines are pretty much an

endless comedy routine. Well, sometimes the comedy gives way to my "what on earth are you thinking?" moments, but still. They're pretty funny.

Loki, who was so appropriately named after the God of Mischief himself, is probably one of the biggest characters in the house. I'm convinced if he had opposable thumbs, I would be held hostage in a human slave colony run by Loki. That boy is just too smart for his own good.

He's gotten to the point where he likes to drink water from the faucet in the bathroom. It's pretty cute, but the longer it's gone on, he has started to demand it. Any time I go to the bathroom, there he is hopping up on the sink and giving me his standard "stink eye." He will stay there and meow at me until I turn the water on just a little bit so he can drink.

The problem becomes if I forget to turn it off. Oi.

Well the other morning after providing his majesty with his morning liquid refreshment, I move back into the room to start my own daily rituals. The evening had been a bit chilly, so I had closed the windows over the screen. After Loki had gotten his fill of water, he jumped up on the window and began – I'm not joking – to paw at the glass until I walked over and opened it for him.

He then laid down across the window sill, took a few breaths and promptly fell asleep. It was as though he was saying, "That will be all. I must take my repose now."

I ended up laughing and wondering what on earth my life has become that I apparently do the bidding of a feline.

He's something else.

A few years ago at an offsite adoption event for the shelter, we had a Saint Bernard mix, named Travie, and a Chihuahua, named Chilupa. I'll give you a minute to capture the mental image of the two of them together. It very much resembled that old Warner Brothers cartoon with the bulldog and the little pup who kept jumping over him.

So at one point, Travie's stretched out on the ground, just chillin', greeting people, having some pizza, and Chilupa walks up to him and starts pawing at his back, like she's either trying to make a nest in his fur or scratch that unreachable itch for him.

The digging went on until Travie heaved a huge sigh, looked up to me and my volunteers with an expression that said, "Would you all mind taking care of my light work?"

Too much.

They got along so well and provided the humans with a whole lot of entertainment.

Animals, man. They bring so much to the world. Not the least of which is the laughter and joy of their antics and silliness.

So I think I've got the key to good health. Get yourself a four-legged friend, set them up in your house and watch 'em go.

The endorphins released from the resulting laughter just might help lower your blood pressure, decrease blood sugar levels, help you deal with pain and strengthen your blood vessels.

I say that's a prescription for a pretty happy life for everyone involved.

*Jennifer Vanderau is the Publication and Promotions Consultant for the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter in Chambersburg, Pa., and can be reached at [cvascomm@cvas-pets.org](mailto:cvascomm@cvas-pets.org). The shelter accepts both monetary and pet supply donations. For more information, call the shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit the website [www.cvas-pets.org](http://www.cvas-pets.org).*



Ziva is a 2-year-old Bulldog mix who absolutely loves attention. She attended a job fair recently where she got to meet a lot of people and was a really good girl. Ziva must be the only dog in the home. If you think you have the right spot for this sweetheart, fill out an application today!



Klingon and his siblings were surrendered to the shelter when his owners could no longer care for them. Klingon is 6-months-old and a "velcro" cat, which means he loves to be wherever you are! Could you be Klingon's new best friend?



Amy came into the shelter as a stray and she's a bit shy, but really nice. She loves being around people and getting all kinds of love. She's a 2-year-old terrier mix and loves to go outside to play. She does pretty well on a leash, but doesn't seem to understand the concept of toys. Because we have no past history with children, an age restriction for children in the home may apply. Please discuss this with shelter staff. Amy would love to find out what a loving forever home is all about!



Little Sloane came into the shelter as a stray and we think she's about 7 years old. Due to her shy demeanor and no history with children an age restriction for children in the home may apply, so please discuss this with shelter staff. During her intake exam it was noted that Sloane had a small pea-sized lump along her one mammary chain, this was removed when she was spayed and sent out to see what type of mass it was. It came back as a low grade (Grade 1) Intraductal mammary carcinoma. Potential adopters will have to work with their Veterinarian to have regular exams and watch for any masses that may arise. Currently no other masses have been found and there are no signs of metastasis.

For more information about Ziva, Klingon, Amy, and Sloane call the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter at 717-263-5791, or visit them online at [www.cvaspets.org](http://www.cvaspets.org) or better yet, visit them in person at the shelter.

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Before humans die, they write their last Will & Testament, give their home & all they have, to those they leave behind. If, with my paws, I could do the same, this is what I'd ask...

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

- My happy home.
- My bowl & cozy bed, soft pillows and all my toys.
- The lap, which I loved so much.
- The hand that stroked my fur & the sweet voice which spoke my name.

I'd Will to the sad, scared shelter dog, the place I had in my human's loving heart, of which there seemed no bounds.

So, when I die, please do not say, "I will never have a pet again, for the loss and pain is more than I can stand."

Instead, go find an unloved dog, one whose life has held no joy or hope and give MY place to HIM.

This is the only thing I can give  
The love I left behind.

-- Author Unknown

# Ursus americanus

Linda Shea  
Frederick County Animal Control  
& Pet Adoption Center

A recent sighting of a Black Bear in downtown Frederick spurred calls to local law enforcement and, of course, the Frederick County Division of Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center. Depending on one's experience and knowledge of wildlife, reactions upon seeing a Black Bear range from joyous and excited to worried and fearful. All of those reactions are understandable. However, a healthy respect of wild animals and taking reasonable, humane steps to deter them may help reduce unnecessary anxiety.

According to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), "Maryland has a breeding population of black bears in the four westernmost counties (Garrett, Allegany, Washington, and Frederick)." Like most wildlife, bears will leave when they see a human--provided they have an escape route. If cornered or too distracted to recognize a viable exit, they may become protective or scared and exhibit body language (like woofing or slapping the ground) that serves as a warning. Leaving the area, giving the bear space, and removing distractions (like pets) may prompt the bear to be on its way.

To avoid unwanted and uncomfortable interaction with a black bear, make sure you take preventative measures to make your home less intriguing. Like many species of wildlife, bears are opportunistic and will return to favorite feeding spots that have easy access to cuisine of any type. Don't leave out food and make sure trash cans are secured properly and as tip-proof as possible by using bungee cords or other means. Bears can even be attracted to used grills and food in bird feeders. DNR recommends removing bird feeders in the spring or, "during summer, remove seed, suet and hummingbird feeders at night." If you weren't already aware, it is illegal in Maryland to feed bears.

Bears are part of Frederick County's wildlife population and the best thing we can do as a community is to learn how to coexist safely and take measures to prevent avoidable problems. For more comprehensive information on Black Bears, visit DNR's website Black Bear Fact Sheet ([maryland.gov](http://maryland.gov)) and be sure to navigate through their information on Black Bear Management and Living with Black Bears. For nuisance wildlife, call DNR at 877-463-6497. To report a Bear-related emergency call 1-410-260-8888.



Couch potatoes need not apply, Lainey is ready to go, go, go. She would make a great walking, hiking or running companion. Lainey arrived at the shelter in early December and was adopted quickly. Unfortunately, she was returned because the resident dog did not prefer her company. Lainey has a good foundation of training and seeks an active home that can include her in their adventures. Do you have what it takes?



Miss Grey is as cute as a button and just as sweet. If you allow her, she will hop in your lap and snuggle in. Miss Grey shared her last home with another dog and she is recommended for families with kids of any age. Unfortunately, her last owner could not keep her because she became homeless. Miss Grey's adoption fee is \$150 and includes spaying, microchipping, routine vaccines/preventives, a veterinarian wellness visit and Frederick County dog license.



Saul is a familiar face at the shelter, he has been at FCAC for over 182 days. Recently, volunteers took Saul on an outing to Baker Park. Here is what they had to say "We enjoyed a great outing with Saul. He is a fantastic dog! He was great in the car - sitting on the back seat on the way there and lying on the ground on the way back (we tired him out!) He is a mellow and sweet guy that would make a great family companion."



What a face! Like the famous artist, Banksy the cat is unique in his own right. His sweet disposition and markings make it easy to spot him on our adoption floor. Banksy was found in early April on Baugher Road in Thurmont. Loud noises and quick movement tend to startle him; therefore, he will do best in a quiet home that will allow him time to adjust.



Barry is sweet, friendly guy. He has lots of love to give and can hold up his end of a conversation. Barry was neutered at the shelter but has the unmistakable large jowls of a tom cat. He has Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV), which poses no risk to humans. FIV has the potential to weaken a cat's immune system, so Barry will need a family that is willing to ensure he stays as healthy as possible.

For more information about Lainey, Miss Grey, Saul, Banksy, and Barry call the Frederick County Animal Shelter at 301-600-1319 or visit them online at [www.frederickcountymd.gov/fcac](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/fcac).

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## PETS

# An old-new rider on horse with a sense of humor

McKenna Snow  
MSMU Class of 2023

I didn't expect to actually get to ride horses my senior year at the Mount. I felt like it was too late, in a way, for me to pick up riding again. It had been years since I had ridden—in fact, it had been so long that I considered myself a beginner, a new rider. But I got my wish to ride again when Mike invited me over to take lessons on his horse, Wesley.

When I came to Mike's farm to ride for the first time, it was still the winter season, and a sleepy cold hung over the barren trees. But birds were still singing through the air, Mike's dogs were running happily around the property, and several cats were enjoying warm spots in the barn. The horses were far out in the corner of the large paddock. Mike went, with many peppermint candies in hand, to go bring in the horses.

This actually wasn't the first time I had met Wesley and the other horse, Scotty. I had met them the semester before when I came over to interview Audrey Hillman for an article; after our conversation, she took me outside to meet the horses. The first time, I felt like a dwarf standing next to these two massive thoroughbred horses, and that feeling remained when I approached them with Mike. They were very interested in the peppermints, and seemed to know why Mike was there; but they didn't know why I was there.

'Who is this?' they seemed to ponder. I tried to introduce myself as best as I could. Mike brought

Wesley in with a lead rope. Scotty, not one to be left out when his friend was headed for the barn, tailed right behind us.

It had been at least eight, probably nine years since I had ridden last. I had taken lessons for several years as a child, and loved it, but those days felt so long ago that I entered into this first lesson—and all succeeding lessons—with the attitude that I truly knew next to nothing about riding, and needed to start as a full beginner. I asked Mike many questions, even if I thought I knew the answer, and didn't make any assumptions that what I was doing was right. It is quite likely that this was an attitude that made me move a lot slower, but I knew that Wesley deserved a rider who didn't come in thinking she already knew everything. He deserved a rider who was willing to learn, to get to know him as the individual horse that he is, and how he prefers to be ridden.

Through all of this, Wesley was so, so patient with me. The first two lessons, we just walked around, and Mike had Wesley on a lead rope while I rode. Wesley, this incredible athlete and jumper, walked in circles with Mike and me for two whole lessons. He must've known a green rider was on his back. I tried to reward his patience and kindness as best as I could with pats, peppermints, and lots of "good boy" affirmations. He deserved it for sure. In these lessons, Mike had me practicing a good two-point position, to help me get my balance, and to teach me to put my confidence and balance in my lower legs and feet. These fundamental lessons proved crucial for a later lesson which

might've turned out much worse if Mike hadn't had me start out just working on these basic exercises.

The next few lessons, I started learning to trot. My muscle memory was coming back to me from the lessons years ago, and apparently, my form was very good. Mike was thrilled that my old trainers had instilled in me good form, heels down, hands low, and balance well-proportioned. Trotting was a lot of fun and Wesley, again, was a trooper in his easy-going demeanor. Though there was a huge open field next to our gravel arena, I never once worried that Wesley would run away with me into it after we were off the lead rope. He trotted happily along, and the two of us became better friends the farther into the semester we went. I knew that all my accomplishments up until this point in riding Wesley successfully were almost entirely due to him—he gave me the most charitable interpretation as I rode, did his best for me, and never put me up to something I wasn't ready for.

Until Mike and I decided to go for a little ride around the field on a hack. Mike was riding Scotty, and I was riding Wesley. We were only a few weeks to graduation, and I had progressed enough that I could canter if I was in the gravel arena. However, I still needed badly to work on my form for cantering, so that was certainly off-limits out in the field. But I was allowed to trot. We had been riding for a little while at this point, and I noticed that Wesley, usually the slow-poke next to Scotty, had quite a pep in his step. I told Mike this, and he told me I could take Wesley for a trot around



McKenna's smile was never wider than when she was around horses—so we know she will like this photo of her.

the field, along the edge of the fence line. Mike told me he'd wait for me up at the top of the hill by the arena.

Excited, I took Wesley down along the fence line, and we started to trot.

And then we started to canter. I didn't ask him to do that.

And then he sort-of started to gallop. 'Wee!' Wesley seemed to say. 'This is fun.'

And the next thing I knew, I was riding a very large thoroughbred horse, who wasn't sure if I was asking him to gallop or canter or trot or slow down—so he made his own decision to run down along the bottom of the fence line, very far away from Mike. And I couldn't get him to slow down or stop. Wesley continued to alternate between a very mild gallop and an excited canter, and I asked him many times in my clumsy way to slow down, to which he did not.

Because of my inexperience with slowing down a horse who was running away with me, I didn't think to turn his nose towards the fence, or to turn him in a circle like Mike had told me to when the horse went too fast. All I thought to do was bring him up to Mike, since, surely, Mike would know what to do. So, using the fundamentals Mike had taught me, I kept my balance as best as I could, and steered Wesley up to the top of the yard where Mike was on Scotty.

I couldn't hear Mike very well at first, so I brought Wesley, who was having a lot of fun, up to Mike. Mike told me to circle around him, so I steered Wesley to circle, and immediately, Wesley slowed to a walk. The fun was over; running in a circle was too much work to him, so he called it quits. I think Wesley thought the whole thing was very funny.

Mike was quite worried when he saw me being run away with on Wesley, so after, he had me trot around the arena a little while to

re-establish who was the rider, and then he had me stop for the day. As embarrassed as I was that Wesley had run away with me, Mike assured me that it was okay. Apparently, Wesley had been testing me, and because I stayed on—and didn't scream—I passed this little test; it showed me that I was a better rider than I thought I was. I could keep a level head in a surprising and difficult situation, and that was a good thing. That, and the fact that I did not fall off and seriously injure myself, was good enough for Mike, me, and Wesley at the end of it all. And, if I may be allowed to add, there was something pretty incredible about being on a horse who was powerfully running along a fence, between a forest and a beautiful paddock. It is one of my favorite memories from all of the lessons.

For me, I would say that Wesley and I became good friends; I hope Wesley would say the same if he were asked. I looked forward to seeing him, petting him, and learning (re-learning) the basics of riding. Wesley is a wonderful horse with an incredible heart of patience, humor, and personality.

I am so grateful for all that Mike taught me about riding, and that he opened his farm to me to ride Wesley (and even Scotty once, but that's a story for another time). Now that I've graduated, I am actively looking for a place where I can continue riding and learning. Mike rekindled my love of riding and desire to continue on with it, just when I was beginning to think that my window to ride had passed. I know now that is not true. Though I only had one semester left and I was something of a clumsy, under-confident rider, through the generosity of Mike, as well as the gentle patience and good humor of Wesley, God blessed me with an incredible opportunity that my horse-loving heart will carry with me for years to come.

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# WATER REPORT

## 2022 Town of Walkersville Treated Water Quality Report

The Town of Walkersville is pleased to present the 2022 Annual Drinking Water Report. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

Source water for the Town's water system originates as groundwater that is pumped from three wells located in a highly-productive limestone aquifer. The limestone in the aquifer possesses large voids, or cavities, where the source water is stored. Springs and sinkholes are typically found within limestone aquifer areas. The presence of sinkholes allows for surface water to mix readily with groundwater, so the state has categorized the Town water system as groundwater under the influence of surface water. Thus, the Town's level of water treatment is equal to that of a surface water source system.

The Town of Walkersville strives to keep our valued water customers informed about their water utility provider. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Matt Orndorff, our Water Superintendent at 301-845-4500. To remain abreast of Town matters, including water service, please attend the twice monthly Town meetings of the Burgess and Commissioners. Town meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Town Hall Office located at 21 W. Frederick St., Walkersville, MD 21793. Our website, provides an up-to-date calendar of all Town meetings as well as agendas and past meeting minutes.

In accordance with state and federal laws, the Town's Department of Public works routinely monitors for contaminants in the Town's drinking water. As source water travels underground or over land, it can acquire substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, is reasonably expected to contain trace amounts of the aforementioned contaminants and it should be noted that mere presence does not necessarily pose a health risk. To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, enforces regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration, FDA, enforces regulations to limit contaminants in bottled water which provides the same protection for public health.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Walkersville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead

in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Town of Walkersville at 301.845.4500. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

PFAS – or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances – refers to a large group of more than 4,000 human-made chemicals that have been used since the 1940s in a range of products, including stain-and-water-resistant fabrics and carpeting, cleaning products, paints, cookware, food packaging and fire-fighting foams. These uses of PFAS have led to PFAS entering our environment, where they have been measured by several states in soil, surface water, groundwater, and seafood. Some PFAS can last a long time in the environment and in the human body and can accumulate in the food chain.

Beginning in 2020, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated a PFAS monitoring program. Our water system was not tested for PFAS in 2022. In March 2023, EPA announced proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) of 4 ppt for PFOA and 4 ppt for PFOS, and a Group Hazard Index for four additional PFAS compounds. Future regulations would require additional monitoring as well as certain actions for systems above the MCLs. EPA will publish the final MCLs and requirements by the end of 2023 or beginning of 2024. Additional information about PFAS can be found on the MDE website: [www.mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx](http://www.mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx).

Source Water Information (ground water): well 1 - FR720037, located approximately 500 ft West of Rt. 194; well 2 - FR810307, located approximately .25 mi west of Rt. 194; and, well 3 - FR815107, located approximately 300 feet East of Fountain Rock Rd..

### DEFINITIONS

*Action Level or AL* - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Avg* - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

*Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL* - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Level 1 Assessment* - A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG* - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

*Level 2 Assessment* - A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

*Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL* - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

*Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG* - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

*Na* - Not applicable.

*Mrem* - Millirems per year ( a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

*Ppb* - Micrograms per liter or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

*Ppm* - Milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

*Treatment Technique or TT* - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

The following tables show the results of the monitoring period between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022.

PWSID #0100025

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2022	1.2	1.1 – 1.2	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2022	4	1.1 – 4.7	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2022	6	0.59 – 10.62	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride	03/24/20	0.88	0.88 – 0.88	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2022	8	3.08 – 9.5	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2021	0.19	-	1.3	1.3	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

### TURBIDITY

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest Single Measurement	1NTU	1 NTU	N	Soil runoff.

95PT

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff.

The Town of Walkersville works around the clock to provide top quality water to every customer. Please contact our office, Monday through Friday 8:30AM – 4:30PM, if you have any questions about the information presented in this 2022 Town of Walkersville Annual Drinking Water Quality Report.

"I'm running for the U.S. Senate to get things done for all Marylanders. And I'll continue to fight for Western Maryland in the House of Representatives."

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CONGRESSMAN  
**DAVID TRONE**



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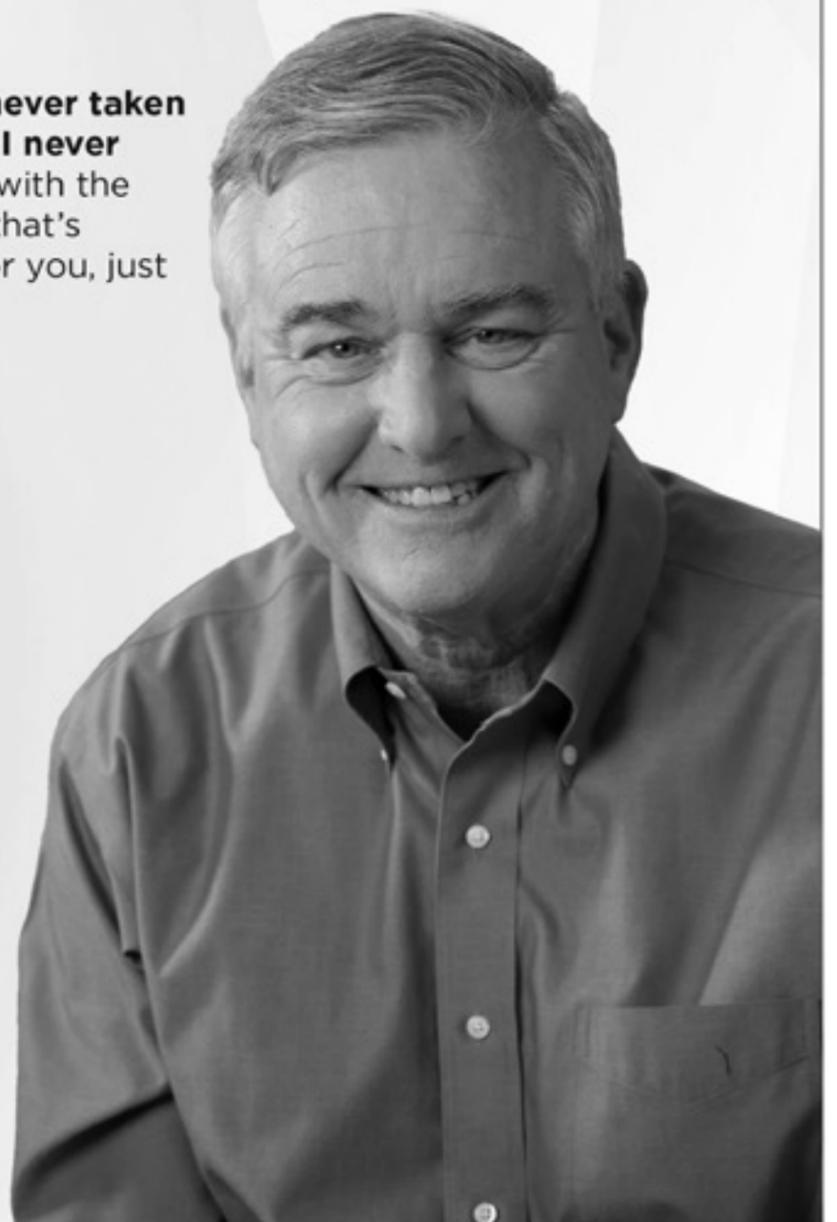
Senator Ben Cardin announced last month that he will not run for reelection. First and foremost, this gives us a moment to reflect on Senator Cardin's outstanding career of public service and show our appreciation for the legacy he leaves behind. Ben has served with intelligence and integrity.

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# Woodsboro-Walkersville NEWS-JOURNAL

SECTION 2

## Farewell to our Managing Editor McKenna Snow

Claire Doll  
MSMU Class of 2024

On Saturday, May 13th, Mount St. Mary's Class of 2023 graduated from the university and bid farewell to their fellow peers while preparing for the next phases of their lives. Among these graduates is our beloved Managing Editor, McKenna Snow, who has not only achieved her college degree, but has done so in three years! The News-Journal is endlessly proud of McKenna and her accomplishments at the Mount. Before she leaves, however, she deserves a world of recognition for her impressive contributions on and off campus as well as her memorable, personal impact on others.

McKenna arrived at the Mount in 2020, amidst the global pandemic raging around the world. Although she started college taking virtual classes, McKenna thrived at the Mount and found so many opportunities to be involved. As a theology major and philosophy minor, McKenna took rigorous courses in the honors program and found a passion in the liberal arts.

One of the most impactful experiences of McKenna's time has been working as a Resident Assistant for two years. "This year I was in a freshman dorm," she says, reflecting on her senior year, "and I really felt like I was able to connect with the girls... I'm going to miss them so much." McKenna has always radiated with

kindness, but as an RA, she grew in her generosity towards others. "It taught me the importance of service," she says, reflecting on the significance of community-living and being there for the person in front of her, no matter what she had on her to-do list. Her ability to prioritize people distinguishes her as a caring, generous individual.

McKenna's devotion to her faith has easily transferred to her generosity towards others. When I first met McKenna, I was immediately taken back by her kindness. Not to say that her beautiful, wide grin and sweet, smiling eyes weren't noticeable—because they are. McKenna radiates joy, and anyone can tell that from a mile away. Or the way she always dresses in bright, long skirts and takes pictures that capture the beauty of autumn or the blossoming of spring. But it was McKenna's kindness that really stood out to me—the sort of kindness that comes so effortlessly from her, but in some small way, it transforms you.

McKenna plans to give back to others through her writing and service, hoping to find more opportunities to be generous to those around her. McKenna has already published pieces in "Front Porch Republic," an American blog that emphasizes the concepts of community, place, and conservation. Her accomplishments will serve as an asset to her future goals and distinguish her as the talented, kind individual she is.



At the Emmitsburg News-Journal, we've had some really, really, really, great Mount St. Mary's students fill the Managing Editor role over the past 15 years, but McKenna was the first one who had to manage two papers. If you've enjoyed watching this paper evolve over the past year - you have McKenna to thank! Claire has some really big shoes to fill - but 'Kenna trained her well - so thanks to 'Kenna, this paper will get only better & better.

McKenna's work done on this paper and the Emmitsburg News-Journal is superb. McKenna has ensured the quality of both papers; her job as Managing Editor entails editing each piece to perfection, maintaining the organized layout of each page, and gathering edits from the different members of our staff to make sure the final drafts of the news-journals are top quality for our readers. The final product you see is a reflection of McKenna's leadership and dedication to this paper. As a full-time college student with an on-campus job and several commitments, she still prior-

itizes the Emmitsburg and Woodsboro-Walkersville News-Journals.

As current Assistant Managing Editor, I have some big shoes to fill following McKenna's role. My role right now includes communicating with the rest of our staff and helping to generate prompts for our Four Years at the Mount column. I am excited to take on a more intricate and impactful position, and I

am excited to take over the papers in general; however, I will also miss working with McKenna, learning from her, and simply being around her generous persona. I look forward to serving the Emmitsburg, Walkersville, and Woodsboro communities while maintaining the integrity, morale, and success of this paper. Thank you, readers, for trusting me with your news-journal.



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# HISTORY

## Woodsboro Remembers

Francis Meehan Smith

Continued from last month

### Automobile Sales and Maintenance

For automobile lovers the C & F Auto Sales operated by Elmer Cregger has a wide selection of used cars. The business is located on the site of the original Southern States property at the southern end of town.

The Bowers Service Station is also on the lower end of town providing gasoline and automobile service.

Windsor's Garage is housed in the building formerly occupied by the Valley Garage, owned and operated for many years by the Eichelberger family. Mr. Windsor offers a full line of repair service and is well known for his reliable work.

The Woodsboro Body Shop operates on the former premises of the Donsife Blacksmith Shop at the corner of Route 550 and Frederick Avenue (Route 194). A complete line of auto repair, alignment, and painting is provided by the shop.

### Bowers Lumber Company

In 1964-65 the Bowers Lumber Company of Frederick expanded its operation to a site south of Woodsboro specifically to manufacture house trusses. They needed land priced at not more than \$1000 an acre and Woodsboro was the finest site available.

An addition was made in 1969-70 to accommodate the lumber mill originally located in Frederick and to produce building component units, as the size of the components outgrew the original lot and plant.

The lumber company employs thirty-five to forty people in its operation.

### Trout's Grocery Store

The grocery store of Nelson Trout, known as Trout's Food Market, has presently taken the place of many pre-

vious stores in Woodsboro. This one super-market built in the center of town in 1963 with ample parking space on the main street, replaces three residences on the south side of the Bank Building.

Trout's Market supplies a full range of meat and produce of high quality and very adequately provides the local customers with food and household staples. A pleasant and competent staff is also a distinct asset and is a reflection on the owner's management, which in turn comes from the genial and obliging Trout family's ability to get along well with the public.

### Beauty and Barber Shops

Two beauty shops are located in Woodsboro. Evelyn Huffman has operated the Woodsboro Beauty Shop for a number of years giving clean and excellent service.

Mary Jane Donsife recently opened her own shop in her home, named Jane's Beauty Barn, after working for many years in Frederick where she was in great demand as an excellent hairdresser.

For the men, Dan the Barber has replaced Lester Long as a tonsorial artist and is well liked for his friendly personality and superb haircuts. Dan also substitutes on WTHU Radio.

### Turtle Top

Eastern Turtle Top has been happily located on the old Frank Crum farm just outside of Woodsboro for the past six years. The company employs local people who convert Ford, Dodge, or Chevrolet vans into campers, surf vans, executive travel wagons, vehicles for the handicapped, mobile offices and laboratories, and veterinarian vans.

The plant is presently owned by Richard Kirkpatrick on Route 550 about a half mile east of town.

### Antiques

Woodsboro is rapidly becoming a center

for antique lovers. "The Circuit Rider" has been previously mentioned.

The "Rebel Yell Shop" is housed in the location of Dr. G.F. Smith's Pharmacy, later the Dorcus Store. Mr. James Beachley deals in Civil War relics and exhibits many fine souvenirs of the past selected with discerning and competent taste.

Mrs. D.J. Duggan operates a "Shop of Old Things" in the former Harry Barrick home at the lower end of town. Mrs. Duggan offers a wide selection of many fine heirlooms, tastefully displayed and carefully chosen.

### Other Businesses

Other facilities in Woodsboro are the Woodsboro Health Clinic (supplying assistance for local health problems); Dr. James M. Murphy (dentist); Dr. Allen M. Garst, native of Woodsboro and popular veterinarian; William P. Bollinger, Jr., painting-contractor; Mclains Contracting Company; Darner Plumbing - Contractor; Dennis Kline - Accounting Service; World Wide Pictures - Ernest B Linger; Kolbs Livestock Sales Barn; Sterling Claybaugh - Milking Equipment; Donald Gladhill Construction Co., Paul F Brunner - Insurance; and Ernest Martin, specializing in finishing antique furniture.

### Lime Plants

The fertile valley of the Woodsboro area is underlaid with a deep formation of lime stone of excellent quality. Before the Civil War many small kilns were operated by individuals for their own or neighbor's Farms.

In the 1850's a business opportunity was recognized and several quarries of greater expanse began to produce lime in numerous kilns for sale and distribution over an extensive area, first by wagons, later by railroad and finally by trucks to neighboring states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

Barrick and LeGore Lime plants have

## Walkersville Seniors' June Activities

The Walkersville Senior Citizens invite you to join us for the following afternoon activities:

June 1- Using your detective skills, find all the missing items as well as the secret summer message.

June 8 - Show and Tell: Seniors will bring interesting and unusual items and share the background story of how and why the item is significant to them.

June 15 - Harold Staley, a

well-known local musician, will entertain with music and stories.

June 22 - Bingo

June 29 - Ann Wadding, Walkersville Library, will update us about summer activities at the library.

Seniors meet from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Town Hall, 21 West Frederick Street. Lunch, catered by Trout's Market, is served at noon. For information, call 301-845-7174. To make lunch reservations, please call the same number at least 72 hours in advance.

been in existence for well over a hundred years making use of the natural resources. More recently Lehigh Portland Cement was located here, also attracted by a shale type rock formation at the edge of the limestone deposit.

### S.W. Barrick & Sons, Inc.

Founded by a pioneer in the agricultural lime field, S.W. Barrick and Sons, Inc., with headquarters in Woodsboro, has become one of the outstanding firms in its industry. The high calcium lime and limestone products it manufactures are distributed in many parts of the country, and the business, under the former guidance of the founder's sons and the current management of the grandsons, is constantly growing.

Samuel W. Barrick established the firm near Woodsboro in 1874. In his day it was customary for neighboring farmers either to erect a permanent kiln to burn limestone quarried on their own farms or to quarry the stone, cut the wood and burn their annual lime requirements in "ricks," which were no more than alternate layers of wood and stone approximately five feet in height. These "ricks" were lighted and allowed to burn out, after which the lime was placed in the fields in piles slaked and spread by hand.

Seeing the opportunity for the commercial sale of lime, S.W. Barrick entered the field in that "pick and shovel" era.

At first sales were limited to neighboring farms, but were gradually extended to adjoining counties. With the advent of the Pennsylvania Railroad branch line from

York, Pennsylvania, to Frederick, an unlimited territory was opened to Mr. Barrick. Gradually more kilns were added and sales extended into the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Delaware. Also, in order to follow the trend toward bagged lime, grinding and hydrating equipment was installed in sheds along the railroad line. These facilities were added to and improved upon as time went on and Mr. Barrick's sons became active in the operation. Sections of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Virginia eventually became parts of the sales area.

In World War I a large portion of the plant output was shipped to the DuPont Company for use in the military program. The years following that conflict brought on the advent of truck transportation and thus larger proportions of overall shipments followed the trend to truck delivery. In recent time a still further and almost complete swing has been made to bulk-spread delivery to the farms. This modern trend was pioneered

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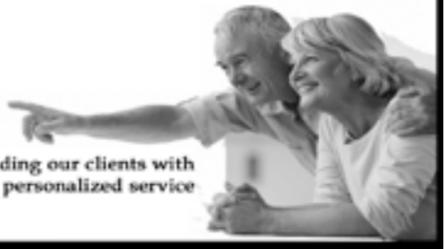
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# HISTORY

by the Barrick firm in that it was the first burned lime

producers in its sales area to offer the farmer a spread service. To improve on plant-to-farm spread service, large storage tanks have been erected at strategic distant points in the sales area. Bulk material is spread from these tanks by a local distributor, thus localizing and bettering the former long distance service.

While certain territories have been eliminated by high freight rates and strong local competition in the areas, other sections have been electively tied down by the first class spreader service offered by the firm.

In recent years the sale of Barrick's Hydrated and Ground Burned Limes for normal agricultural uses has been extended to the constantly increasing needs for sod growing and golf course maintenance. Also, large quantities of the Barrick products are used in stabilizing clay sub soils prior to the construction of roads, parking areas and streets. Currently the ever-increasing demand to clear up the air we breathe and the water we drink has created a tremendous new market for lime. Barrick's Hydrated Lime is now used extensively for these purposes.

The sons of the Founder, who were all actively associated with their father, are now deceased. They were namely, Leonard, John, Claude, Oscar and Harry Barrick. The firm is now owned and operated by the founder's grandsons, great grandsons and other descendants. Many of the descendants of the early employees of S.W. Barrick are to this day key men with the firm. In The early 1900's these families moved down from the Catoctin Mountain area as a result of the closing of the old Catoctin Furnace. These fine hard workingmen were experienced masons, carpenters, blacksmiths and wagon masters. They were most helpful to the founder in the early expansion of the kiln capacity and the quarry. Mr. Barrick built homes for these families, and a commissary was provided to take care of their needs. This community,

including a Church, exists today for the employees.

The Barrick firm is actively engaged in the promotion and improvement of lime thru their memberships in such nationally oriented trade organizations as the National Lime Association and the National Limestone Institute. Currently a member of the firm is a director in each of these very active organizations.

With the continued increase in the population of the nation and the resultant demand for increased farm products along with the many new uses for lime. S.W. Barrick & Sons, Inc. looks forward to many more years of uninterrupted service as a producer of first class lime products.

### The LeGore Lime Company

The LeGore Combination Lime Company was the second lime company to be established in Frederick County. It was founded by John LeGore in 1861. Due to the ill health of his brother, John, James W. LeGore returned home from working in Ohio to help establish the business. Upon John's death in 1877, James LeGore took over opening the extensive quarry at LeGore Station, one mile north of Woodsboro. He extended the land holdings to seven hundred acres of land under laid with a fine grade of limestone.

The present business was incorporated in 1899 with James William LeGore as President and Eugene Hammond. Vice-President. Stockholders were James LeGore, Frank Stoner, Columbus Welter, Eugene Hammond, and Bradley Stambaugh.

One hundred workers were employed year round at the plant. In the middle of the morning, "jackbites", consisting of sandwiches, coffee, or iced tea were sent to the quarry from the family kitchen. At noon lunch was served to the employees in a building near the LeGore home. Many of the employees came to the lime plant from Catoctin Furnace seeking employment. During the first sev-

eral years of the 1900's the men were also kept busy in constructing the LeGore Bridge, which was to be used as the site of a hydroelectric dam for an electric railway from Washington to Gettysburg.

A state road was also intended to cross the Monocacy River over the bridge. Both projects were aborted. However, the LeGore Bridge remains as a lovely and sturdy structure. To this day it withstands floods, which swept away other Frederick County bridges in the meantime.

In the early days limestone was quarried with hand tools. The stone was loaded on small carts pulled by trained mules that pulled the carts from the quarry up the hill to the burning kilns. They became so well trained that they could make the trip up and back on their own. The capacity of the plant was approximately 100,000 bushels a month and the annual sales amounted to over 700,000 bushels. Seventeen kilns were then operating, fired with wood, coal, and later coke. Shipments by rail, in boxcars, were made to North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and all over Maryland.

Mr. LeGore had forty houses erected for his employees. A building to house the company office, store and post office was later added.

In 1924 the name of the company was changed to a "The LeGore Lime Company of Frederic County". It was carried on as a family business with Walter LeGore's sons Wilbur, Marlon and Ralston joining the business as stockholders, directors and salesmen.

Many changes have taken place over the 105 years of the LeGore Lime Company. The plant has been highly mechanized with conveyor belts, power shovels, trucks, crushers and mixers. Hydrated lime, ground burnt lime, and pulverized limestone were the main agricultural lime product sold. Instead of shipping line by railroad cars, spreader trucks for use to spread lime directly on the land.

In September 1970, the LaGore Lime Company consolidated with the Economy Oil Company and Superior Concrete Company, Inc. of Frederick, to form a new company, Phoenix Inc. The LeGore quarry division of Phoenix no longer produces agricultural lime. Stone is instead sold for road building in Frederick county and other parts of Maryland.

continued next month

## Ronald Francis Layman



Ronald Francis Layman, 57, of Union Bridge, was born March 29, 1966. On April 30 Ron passed on after a 20-month fight due to complications from a brain injury.

Ron was the son of Richard H. and the late F. Lillian Orndorff Layman. As well as his Dad, Ron is survived by the love of his life, Sharon (Farver), his wife; daughters, Sarah and Katey, and grandchildren Lillian and Damian. Ron was also Pappy to his stepchildren Tonya, Everett, and Melissa, as well as their children Abbey, Noah, and Chloe. Ron will be missed by many, especially his brother, Rick and children, and sister, Lori and her husband, Todd. He shared a special relationship with his in-laws Patsy Harris, Maurice 'Mo' Farver, and John Harris, as well as childhood friend Paul Starkey.

Ron lived his entire life within 15 miles of his birthplace on the family dairy farm on Good Intent Road.

Ron was a 1984 graduate of Walkersville High School, where he was a member of the FFA. Ron enjoyed a lifelong interest in history, especially the Civil War era. He also enjoyed fishing. His children and grandchildren have fond memories of day trips to battlefields,

area mountains and streams and the pond. Ron shared a lifelong love of trains with his Mom.

In his early twenties, he began a career on the railroad that continued into his early fifties. His first railroad job was with Maryland Midland doing track maintenance. He later went to work for Jeff Herig at DJR, where he became a railroad signal and crossing installer, performing maintenance and installations on railroads running up and down the Eastern states. Ron and Jeff became and remained friends until the end. Ron's last job was with CJ Miller as a dump truck operator. He was greatly respected for his strong work ethic.

One of Ron's greatest pleasures was music. He enjoyed classic rock, and in later years made the remark that he was becoming fond of country music because it was more like his life. To say Ron was an avid Grateful Dead fan was an understatement; he enjoyed nothing more than attending a concert or hanging out with his dog, Ripple, while chilling to Dead music, grilling, tending his vegetable garden, caring for his chickens, or putting in his shop.

In his final days, he smiled at the thought of the band in heaven and a chance to sit in with Jerry and the celestial musicians. The family would like to thank the Union Bridge Fire Department for their quick response the morning Ron fell. The family expresses appreciation to the many friends and family who prayed and supported the family through Ron's journey.

A private celebration of life cookout will be held at a later date. At that time the family will gather to share memories, grilled food, and good music.

1 *Terry's* 03

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# 100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

## June 7

### Farm Buildings Burned

A large bank barn, hay shed, dairy and tenant house on the farm of John Thomes, near Johnsville, were destroyed by lightning during a storm shortly after 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Mr. Thomes was sitting in a front room in the house during the storm. Following a vivid flash of lightning, he walked to the door and found the roof of the barn in flames.

In a short time the fire communicated to the hay shed, dairy, tenant house and adjoining buildings. The barn and its contents, including a cow, four calves, farming implements and machinery, some poultry and a quantity of hay and corn were burned, causing a loss of about \$8,000.

A number of persons in the neighborhood, attracted by the fire, went to the scene, but were unable to do anything in the way of saving the property. The flames burnt rapidly until all the buildings were in ashes.

### Five Injured by Lightning Strike

Stunned and burned by lightning, which played freak pranks about their home during the storm on Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Fogle of near Johnsville, are slowly recovering from their injuries. There were three children, also in the house at the same time, while stunned, was not so badly hurt.

The Harley's were seated in the doorway, which joining the stone building to the new addition. Lightning has been practically sharp and vivid and several times had struck about the property before the flash that seemed to hit at the top of the door and then run down between the two persons. Mr. Fogle was rendered unconscious, and for about 20 minutes was seriously ill. He was badly burned about the shoulders and body. His wife also suffered burns on her left side, but was not so badly affected as Mr. Fogle.

A strange circumstance about the lightning was that while Mr. and Mrs. Fogle were both burned, their clothing showed no signs of scorching or burning. The property was not damaged to any extent, and no chard marks were noticed on the woodwork.

## June 14

### Woodboro-Keymar Road To Be Repaired

As many of the existing pikes of Frederick County will be repaired during the coming summer as possible, according to a plan by the Board of County Commissioners. There are a number of former toll roads throughout the county which are in a rundown condition and it is the intention of the Commissioners to repair these roads this summer.

A large delegation from Woodboro appear before the commissioners on Monday and ask that the pike from Woodboro to Keymar, a distance of about 5.5 miles be repaired. The road, which leads through Ladiesburg, is already piked, but, the delegation pointed out, is in need of repair. After considering the request, the Commissioners reported to the delegation that the improvements requested were in line with a road program for the County for the coming summer, but that the road should be repaired in its turn and that some other roads will be done first.

### School Budget Approved

Adoption of the school board budget of \$332,000 for the ensuing year, and all of its major particulars, was urged by a committee of the Frederick County Parent-Teachers Association in a visit before the County Commissioners. In recommending the adoption of the budget, the importance of maintaining the present high standard in the county school system was pointed out. Attention was called to the good condition of the school properties and the high standards that have been reached, and the commissioners were urged not to impede this progress. It was also pointed out that the school system is an investment, and not an expense, and that upon its continued support depends the future of the county.

## June 21

### Kills Wife And Then Himself

A double tragedy, resulting in the death of two persons and the injury of four others, occurred near the village of LaGore, several miles from Woodboro Sunday night, when

Roy Smith, 20 years old, shot and instantly killed his wife, Helen Wilhide Smith, age 19, and wounded his father-in-law, the latter's two daughters and a girlfriend of the family. He then fled a short distance into a wheat field and fired a second charge from a shotgun into his own heart.

Mrs. Smith was riding in a back seat of a carriage with her two younger sisters on each side. The shooting occurred on the road between the Oak Hill Church of God, which the Wilhide party had been attending and the Wilhide home. Smith, who also had attended the service, left early, telling several people he wanted to avoid trouble.

Smith stepped from a clump of bushes as the surrey passed and fired his shotgun into the back of the buggy. He then jumped a fence into a wheat field and shot himself through the heart, not more than 100 yards from the scene of the murder.

While the first shot was loud, the second one was dull. This is attributed to the fact that Smith pressed the barrel of the shot gun against his breast and fired.

Smith and his wife were married 14 months ago, when they eloped. Following the marriage they lived with Smith's parents, at LeGore. Trouble ensued soon after the marriage, and Smith is said to have abused his wife, causing her to finally return to her parent's house. Neighbors say that Smith was jealous of his wife from the outset.

It is said that Smith both tried to obtain a divorce, and to effect a reconciliation, and failed in both. Also that he had attempted to talk with her at the church, but she refused.

The shooting seems to have been planned, as the gun must have been placed in the bushes beforehand. Four days ago, Smith told his father he had sold the gun. Authorities believe that Smith had contemplated the crime and had hidden the gun in a clump of brush near the scene of the crime. Smith did not have the gun when he was seen walking toward or away from the church.

It is believed that his statement made upon leaving the church "wanting to avoid trouble," was made so his wife would not suspect anything and take her usual place in the center of the back seat of the surrey. Footprints in the dust indicate that Smith had walked some dis-



tance behind the carriage before he finally fired.

Smith also intended to "get" Harry Wilhide, his brother-in-law. Smith is said to have unjustly blamed him for his domestic troubles and threatened to shoot him.

The tragedy has horrified both families. The members of each discuss the tragedy without the slightest trace of bitterness. Mr. Wilhide and the members of his family, who opposed the marriage on the basis of youth, explained that Smith had been unkind to his wife. "Helen," her father said, "did not speak of getting a divorce. Instead, she came home because she could no longer endure the abuse."

In a broken voice, the father of the dead youth expressed the belief in his son. "He must have been insane at the time," tears streaming down his cheeks. "I know that he genuinely loved his wife, that he was devoted to her and that his affections were real. Yes, there was some quarrelling, but I didn't think at the time that it would come to this. I thought that they would settle their differences and it would all end right. When Helen left him, Roy suffered much. He was, it is true, jealous of her, but he did love her."

Smith served in the Fourth-Eight Infantry, Company C, during the World War. Since his discharge he has been employed at the Barrick Lime Plant in Woodboro. Smith, it is said, spoke frequently of his troubles to his co-workers, and had attempted to purchase carbolic acid in Woodboro to kill himself with.

Smith was buried at Locus Grove cemetery while his wife was buried at Mt. Hope cemetery.

### Auto Mishap At Bridgeport

Two men running a handsome Packard car had an upset on the curb just beyond the bridge at Bridgeport, Monday evening, with a result that the car was considerably injured, as well as the occupants. The car was towed back to the Taneytown garage for repairs. After getting fixed up, the man hired a car to take them to Buena Vista, just outside of Emmitsburg. Both of them had evidently been drinking and were in an unfit condition to operate a car.

The car is reported to have been liberally stocked with liquor. A state policeman happen to come along at the time of the accident and secured 2 pints as evidence, and 2 quarts for his own use. He then came to town to notify the garage to come and get the car, but when he returned to the scene the rest of the stock had mysteriously disappeared, much to the annoyance of many who had descended upon the scene to acquire samples.

### Dwellings And Outbuildings Burned

A fire alarm was sounded on Thursday afternoon shortly after 3 o'clock, and in about two minutes the Union Bridge fire apparatus was on its way to James Haugh's house, on the Uniontown Road, about 1/4 mile from the corporate limits. The fire originated in the stable on the Haugh property and communicated to the hog pen, and chicken house, all being ablaze in a few minutes.

A breeze carried the flames away from the Haugh dwelling to the adjoining property of Noah Shelby, and soon all of the buildings owned by Shelby were on fire — dwelling, summer kitchen, smokehouse and stable.

The fire company was unable to save the dwelling, even though they were there in ample time, due to several causes: mud in the short main from Baltimore Street to the plug at Mrs. Claybaugh's, great difficulty in opening the plug; the bursting of the hose near the plug, and the insufficient pressure from the standpipe. After the hose line clean up, the pumping into the standpipe commenced. There was sufficient water force, even through about 1,100 feet of hose, to have saved the dwelling had the other issues not interfered.

### Fire In Keymar

Tuesday night around 11 o'clock, the house on the farm of John Harman was destroyed by fire. Mr. Harman's little child became restless and his wife got up to see about it. She told her husband she smelled smoke and Mr. Harman got up and going downstairs found a whole one side of the house a blaze. The rest of the family barely escaped. Mr. Harman's



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# 100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

## June 28

### Storm Wreaks Havoc

Saturday afternoon occurred the most severe rain and windstorm that has visited this section for some time. Rain fell in torrents and the wind uprooted trees and tore large branches from trees throughout the countryside. Lightning was sharp and incessant. The storm was of short duration, passing over in about 20 minutes.

It partook of the nature of a cyclone in the vicinity of LeGore & New Midway. In those sections trees were twisted, telephone poles snapped off and blown for a distance of up to 30 to 40 feet. Wires were strewn along the highway from Woodsboro to New Midway.

It is reported that lightning struck the towers on the Lutheran and Reformed Churches in Creagerstown - little damage was done. Two houses in town were also struck.

During the storm lightning struck the shed of Isaac Hackley's farm in Creagerstown, in which were stored about 25 tons of hay, a hay press and other machinery. The building went up in flames and contents were destroyed.

A large hayshed on the farm of William Shorb, between Creagerstown and Rocky Ridge was destroyed, as well as 30 tons of bailed hay and practically all of Mr. Shorb's farming implements. It required the efforts of a number of men who formed a bucket brigade to save the barn, which stands almost 30 feet from the hay shed.

Three horses were killed by lightning near Liberty on Mrs. Ida Smith's farm and two cows were killed on the farm of Emery Burrier on the Johnsville and Liberty Pike. They were in the barn, but the building did not burn.

Lightning also played havoc in Woodsboro. One bolt struck the bell tower of the Lutheran Church, but did

little damage to the building. Another bolt took off part of the roof of the rear of the residence of George Hall. Trees were blown down in Woodsboro and most of the telephone lines were knocked out by the storm.

At least one accident is blamed on the wreckage from the storm. Gilbert Fauble of Union Bridge, was returning from a visit to Woodsboro when he became bewildered by the tangled wires and broken trees and crashed into a telephone pole.

The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. reported that between 300 and 400 telephone sets were out of service in the county as a whole, not including those in the whole of the Woodsboro district.

### Automobile Law

George Albaugh, of Walkersville, was charge for failing to keep to the right of the center of the road at an intersection, while Edwin Mackley, also of Walkers-

ville, who was riding a motorcycle, was charged with failing to give the right away. The two machines came together and Mackley was hurt. Both pleaded guilty and were fined \$.35 and cost amounting to \$6.15 each at a hearing before the Justice of the Peace.

Edward Ranneberger was charged with passing an automobile on a hill and without having lights on his machine. The Justice of the Peace said that if he could he would also have charged Ranneberger "with being plain stupid." Ranneberger was in the rear of another car, and about halfway up the hill he drove his car around the machine ahead and came near running into a motorcycle officer, who immediately turned around and gave chase. He pleaded guilty and was fined five dollars and cost fined five dollars and cost.

To read past editions of 100 Years Ago this month, visit the History section of Walkersville.net.

lost all their furniture and clothing, and have no insurance. It is hoped that Mr. Harman and family will be helped with furniture, money, clothing. Anything in the eating line will be appreciated by them. How the house caught on fire is unknown, but it originated in the kitchen.

### Motorist Run Down By Train

Harry Crumpacker, 18, of Carroll County was seriously injured on Tuesday when an automobile in what she was writing was struck by a Western Maryland passenger train. While details of the accident are lacking, it is understood that the lad misinterpreted the distance to the crossing and the speed of the train. Just as Crumpacker's machine was about halfway across, a fast expressed dashed into it. The force of the impact crumpled the car and it was carried nearly 400 feet. The young man what pinned against a telegraph pole and seriously injured.

The train was stopped in several members of the crew hurry to the victim's assistance. He was found unconscious and was picked up and placed on the Pullman and carried to Frederick. The automobile was a mass of wreckage and it is a miracle that Crumpacker was not instantly killed. He was the only occupant of the car.

### Walkersville

#### Playground To Open

Walkersville is making plans for the opening of its playground for children on June 30. This will be the fifth year that Walkersville has had a playground and unusual enthusiasm and interest is being manifest both by the children and by the parents. The playground is conducted under the auspice of the Walkersville Methodist Episcopal Church, but it is for all children. The playground is open to all the children of the community, county as well as town youngsters.

The playground is one of the most popular institutions in Walkersville in the summer. The youngsters are intensely interested and can hardly wait for the opening day. The lot used is in the back of the Methodist Church and is property of the church. Some new equipment was installed last year and it is planning to add a volleyball and a basketball court this year. The equipment is unusually complete for a town so small as Walkersville. There chil-

dren are provided with facilities for a large number of games. It is the aim of those in charge to add equipment each year to improve the facilities.

At times the playground is patronize by as many as 200 children at a time. It is open three evenings each week: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings and on Wednesday mornings. The ground is open in the evenings out of consideration for the country children; the majority of them are busy on farms during the day and have no time for playing. For their benefit the playground is open on the three nights each week until 10 o'clock.

### Opening Game At Woodsboro Thrown Out

The game between Woodsboro and Point of Rocks, which was played at Woodsboro last Saturday, which Woodsboro won by a 4 to 3 score, will have to be played over again on some neutral ground according to a decision announced by the President of the Frederick League. One of the players who appeared in the Woodsboro lineup was in eligible to play for the town and therefore the league could not recognize the game and directed that it be played over.

Woodsboro, last year's league champion, went all out to celebrate their season opener. A parade was held in which the directors of the home club, the players together with a number of fans, made up a procession headed by the Union Bridge band. When the procession arrived at the ballpark on the edge of town, the pastor of the Lutheran Church of Woodsboro, made a short address and asks for God's intervention on the behalf of the home team against their "heathen opponents". Dr. George Smith, Burgess of Woodsboro, through the first ball across the plate.

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# LIBRARY NEWS

## Walkersville Library

June brings the official start of the summer, sunshine, and plenty of time to try new things! The Walkersville Branch Library has a calendar packed with summer fun, both inside and outside, and perfect for the whole family!

Looking to stay active this summer but want to avoid the summer sun? The library has some great indoor options to

choose from. Put on your comfy clothes and join Sol Yoga on Monday, 6/5 and 6/26 at 6pm to melt away the stress of Monday during this free drop-in yoga class. On Saturdays at 10am, we have Freedom BANG, a pre-choreographed fusion of boxing, HIIT, hip hop, world dance, optional weighted gloves, and a touch of attitude, offering a wide range

of intensity options to customize your workout. Saturday 6/24, at 10 a.m. is a Supported Exercises for Ageless Training (S.E.A.T) class, a chair-based fitness program designed to strengthen the body and mind, while improving balance and flexibility. This class is suitable for all ages, abilities, and fitness levels!

Interested in knowing more about the longest-running African American holiday? Barbara Thompson from African American Resources Cultural and Heritage will return to discuss the history behind the holiday Juneteenth on 6/14 at 10:30 a.m.

The Literacy Council of Frederick will be offering an ESL class on Sunday 6/4 and 6/11 at 1:30 p.m. for adults who want to practice their English. Students will practice their speaking and listening skills with conversations guided by an instructor from the Literacy Council of Frederick. Please note, registration is required by the Literacy Council of Frederick. If interested, please use the link provided on the fcpl.org calendar or stop by the library for assistance.

Our weekly Farmer's Market is back! You can enjoy a variety of goods from local vendors at our Farmer's Market on Saturdays from 9am - 1 pm. If you are interested in having a spot at the Farmer's Market, call the library at 301-600-8200.

Reach your reading goals this summer by participating in the Summer

Challenge, June 1st through August 15th. Track your reading in the Beanstack app to earn amazing prizes and raffle tickets throughout the summer. All ages can join the challenge!

Are you an aspiring green thumb or just need some help getting your garden from surviving to thriving? A Master Gardener will be at the Walkersville Branch to share Backyard Garden Tips on 6/11 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Music and Arts will be here with instruments and entertainment to host a musical sensory experience for adults with intellectual disabilities on 6/10 at 1 p.m.

Home for the summer and looking for a fun way to get involved in the community with friends? Join us at our monthly Teen Library Council (TLC) meeting on 6/27 at 3:30pm to help make the library the best place it can be for you! Attendees will not only receive volunteer hours but also develop marketable leadership skills, credentials for future jobs and college applications, and have fun with other teens like you!

Are you a teen with a passion for anime and manga? Join us on Friday 6/2 and 6/16 at 3:30 for an afternoon of fun watching anime, discussing the best shows and books out there and enjoying fun activities about your favorite fandom!

Join us to celebrate the 275th anniversary of Frederick County this month!

We will have special story times located at various parks around the county. After story time take a stroll, play at the playground, or bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the natural beauty of Frederick County. The 275th Anniversary Story Time series will start at 11am, and locations are as follows:

- The Summer Challenge Kickoff will be at Creamery Park on 6/2
- Story Explorers at Walkersville Community Park on 6/9
- Story Explorers at Heritage Farm Park on 6/23
- Story Explorers at Fountain Rock Park on 6/30

In case of inclement weather, all story times will be held at the Walkersville Branch Library.

June is the perfect time for berry picking! Bring a blanket to sit on and a basket for your berries to Glade Link Farm located at 12270 Woodsboro Pike, Keymar for a special story time on the farm on Thursday June 8th at 11 a.m.! Pick some local fruit for a picnic lunch and enjoy the fresh air on the farm.

In addition to our special Pre-school story times, our usual schedule for infants, babies and family story time remains throughout June: Monday: Infants 10 a.m., Babies 11 a.m.; Tuesday: Toddlers 11 a.m.; Wednesday: Family 6 p.m.; Thursday: Preschool 11 a.m.

Join us Wednesday June 7th at 6 p.m., us for an all-ages story time featuring songs, stories and rhymes in Spanish and English. This program is open to families who speak Spanish, and those looking to learn!

Gear up for exciting adventures happening right in our backyard! This program will feature hands-on fun and even some special guests, every week all summer long! Wednesdays at 11am are for adventures in STEM! Frederick County's GIS Specialist will be at Walkersville Branch Library on June 7th to share information about their drones. We'll also explore the world of technology, engineering, and mathematics with a variety of hands-on activities. June 14th will feature Peter Wood: Collector of the Impossible! His interactive show feels like stepping into a cabinet of curiosities, filled with supernatural paintings, mysterious elixirs, mind-reading devices and more. Blending amazing artifacts with humor and storytelling, Peter Wood has crafted a one-of-a-kind magic show experience that is guaranteed to surprise and delight. Love getting messy? Come to our Slime Day on June 21 for a sticky sensory experience! Science and stories collide in another interactive STEM program, this time on June 28th. In Saving the Earth Together with Talewise, two unlikely heroes must learn to work together to stop a super polluting mastermind! Throughout the story, you'll help the performer conduct amazing science experiments all about air pressure, the laws of motion, chemical reactions and much more.

Celebrate the first week of summer with a mini beach party! On June 24th from 11 to 1 p.m. we will have a variety of fun, summery STEM activities outside on the lawn for all ages. While we won't have an ocean to swim in, feel free to bring your beach towel and enjoy the staycation!

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# WALKERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

## Walkersville tennis team strikes back

With the school year wrapping up, the sports life is going strong as tennis finished off with a wonderful season. For the past three months, the team would have about three matches a week against other FCPS schools and as players won matches, they would move up in the league and as they lost them, they would get eliminated from the regular season.

Senior Cassidy Hillman said, "We have matches 3 days a week. matches are a best 2 out of 3 sets with 7 or 10 point tie breaker if needed. usually the singles players and first doubles goes on first. then, 2nd doubles and then 3rd doubles will go on. At the end of our season we have counties at baker park with no ad scoring. Then there's regionals with ad scoring. regionals has first singles, first doubles, and mixed doubles (a boy and girl). The Walkersville team did quite well with a 7/9 record considering a lot of our players were new to the team."

Singles are matches with individual player against individual player, and Doubles are duos vs duos. The first, second, and thirds, hint at how well they play, with firsts being some of their best players. Their practices lasted about an hour and a half after school everyday with varying attendance depending on who was playing in the match that week.

Senior Noah Severt said, "Practices were good. We would warm up by just hitting the ball informally on a court. This would just get us in the rhythm of swinging and the mindset to play. Then we would break off into small matches or work with a coach. As someone just starting, I just worked with a coach and a small group because we didn't really know how to play. Everyone else would play matches to prepare for their games."

Senior Karen Garst said, "Everyday we practice for an hour and a half after school. Usually focusing on gameplay, backhands, spin on the ball, and serving. This year we experienced a whole new team, as the starting lineup last year all graduated. Our record was pretty well considering this, and all our losses were close."

This year Karen performed very well with her doubles partner, Senior Hannah Miller, as they were county semi finalists as third doubles. They defeated both Middletown and Oakdale but unfortunately lost in the finals to Urbana.

Sophomore Aditya Gujalwar said, "This season could have been better. My doubles partner Michael Gilroy and I were moved up in the line up from last year. We had a hard time getting used to the better players, but we ended the season with 6 wins and 8 losses. The matches are very competitive, and sometimes end up being almost an hour and a half long. Even watching your own teammates can be nerve racking. High school tennis matches are overall very fun to watch. The

county tournament went much better for Walkersville this year. Our third doubles made it to the semi finals of the tournament, but fell to Urbana. The rest of us were eliminated in the quarter final round of the tournament."

Fellow Sophomore Sid Parandapalli said, "My favorite part about tennis is the team, especially Coach Jon. He makes being on the tennis team really fun and enjoyable. I had a lot of great memories this season, from beating higher ranked opponents to talking with the team outside Dairy Queen for hours. But one of them would be beating Williamsport's 1st singles. I had lost the first set 2-6 but then came back to win the match 6-3, 10-8, in a close third set tiebreak."

This win really paid off as his final overall season score was 15 wins and 2 losses, he was the #1 seed in the county for the tournament. Makes sense as he started playing tennis with friends at a young age and thought he would give it a shot in high school and he has been playing competitively for about 4 years.

Tennis is a very individual based sports with certain players exceeding and representing Walkersville more than others. But the comradery is never shaken and in fact is one of the strongest pillars of the team.

Junior Oden Rowley said, "I've played since freshmen year and I did pretty well myself but I wasn't able to attend many practices due to band performances. My favorite game of the season though was

when I played with Noah Severt in a doubles match. I hope I'm able to play next year and I hope that I'm not too busy so can participate and enjoy the experience more."

Severt said, "Joining the team was awesome, everyone is including the coach is very nice. Even though I had no idea how to play, I never felt like anyone held that against me. All the players work hard so I tried extra hard to work up and to play at least good enough. I'm glad I got this experience."

They even have fun traditions to go out and support their fellow players at the county tournament.

Senior Sydney Hagerty said, "My favorite memory was from last years season with the seniors when we went to counties for the day and we had got bagels early in the morning and we just had fun watching all of the teams and talking with each other."

Garst said, "Every year the team goes to cheer on the team at counties and regionals, so we get to spend the whole day together. It's definitely a highlight of the season; especially getting bagels and rita's together."

The Walkersville High School Tennis team is a group of excellent students who are supportive of each other in matches and work hard to play hard on their own or with a fellow teammate. They had a fantastic season with some making it to semi-regionals and they are working hard to do just as well if not better in the upcoming season.



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# ARTS

## Majestic Theater's 2023 Summer classic movies

The Majestic Theater will celebrate film favorites old and new when the annual Summer Classic Movie series kicks off June 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the historic 1925 auditorium. Enjoy classic movies in the beautifully restored historic theater every Wednesday night through August 23. Tickets for each film are just \$8 and are on sale now. Advanced ticket purchase is strongly recommended.

"It's hard to believe we launched this film series in 2008, and attendance just keeps growing year after year," reflected Founding Executive Director Jeffrey Gabel. "Patrons tell me they love the series because it's so much fun to watch Hollywood classic films in our beautifully restored 1925 movie palace, up on our giant screen, and in the company of their friends and neighbors. They also love Matt Moon's delicious popcorn!"

Hijinks ensue June 7 when Billy Wilder's hilarious gender bender

farce, *Some Like It Hot* (1959) kicks off the summer series. Enjoy seeing Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon and Marilyn Monroe at their most hilarious; attend dressed as Marilyn for a free small popcorn. On June 14, Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman sizzle in Alfred Hitchcock's Nazi espionage thriller, *Notorious* (1946). Bring the entire family on June 21 for 1995's *Babe*, starring a brave little pig who learns how to herd sheep. On June 28 is Jimmy Cagney's flag-waving, singing and dancing salute to George M. Cohen, *Yankee Doodle Dandy* (1942).

Join Will Smith and a cast of beloved 1990s stars to defeat aliens on July 5 with summer blockbuster, *Independence Day* (1996). On July 12, Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi are "on a mission from God" in 1980's *The Blues Brothers*. Alan Ladd stars in *Shane* (1953), a scenic sagebrush classic, on July 19. Then,



comedian Don Knotts is a timid typesetter embroiled in a murder mystery on July 26 in *The Ghost and Mr. Chicken* (1966).

August 2 reunites Paul Newman and Robert Redford in 1973's comedy crime caper, *The Sting*. Marty McFly and Doc Brown jet off in the DeLorean once again to save their

past and futures in *Back to the Future II* (1989) on August 9. All time travelers are welcome to dress the part for a free small popcorn during the show. Jimmy Stewart and Marlene Dietrich team up on August 16 in 1939's *Destry Rides Again*. And finally the summer series concludes with *Dirty Danc-*

*ing* (1987) on August 23. Try out your dance moves in a contest prior to the show.

Tickets for all Summer Classics showings are \$8 each and are available at the Majestic Theater Box Office, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, by calling 717-337-8200 or online at [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

## Weinberg's June events

### America's Hidden Stories: Forged In Slavery – June 6

Who were the enslaved ironworkers of Frederick County's Catocin Furnace? What happened to their community? The Smithsonian Channel's *America's Hidden*

*Stories: Forged in Slavery* reveals a startling new picture of slavery and the role that skilled African Americans played in America's Industrial Revolution.

This film is being premiered at the Weinberg Center prior

to airing on the Smithsonian Channel. This is a free film event, but tickets are required. Following the screening there will be a VIP reception where attendees will meet the filmmakers and cast. Tickets for the VIP reception are \$75, and the proceeds benefit AARCH's new Heritage Center. This reception will be held at New Spire Arts, located directly across the street from the Weinberg Center at 15 West Patrick Street.

### Nancy Wilson's Heart - June 14

Nancy Wilson is celebrated as a seminal musician in rock n' roll history. A guitar virtuoso from the age of 9, Nancy (and her sister Ann) led the multi-platinum rock group, Heart, who have sold

upwards of 35 million albums.

Nancy is revered as an ingenious guitar player, and as a gifted lead vocalist. In fact, that's Nancy singing on Heart's first Number One hit, "These Dreams." As a songwriter, Nancy has co-written a collection of indelible songs that have earned their way into the classic rock canon ("Magic Man," "Crazy on You," "Baracuda," "Straight On"). Nancy and Ann were honored with the ASCAP Founders Award (2009),

ASCAP's most prestigious honor, awarded to songwriters who have made pioneering contributions to music. During an era when females in rock 'n' roll were scarce, Nancy helped to carve out a place for women to front rock bands and dominate on stage. Her icon status was cemented when Heart was inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in 2012.

Her new band, Nancy Wilson's Heart, features Nancy on guitar and vocals, guitarist Ryan Waters, bassist Andy Stoller, drummer Ben Smith and keyboardist Dan Walker. Vocal duties will be provided by Kimberly Nichole, who was a finalist on season 8 of *The Voice*.

### NPR's Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me – June 15

The Wait Wait Stand-Up Tour features some of Wait, Wait...

Don't Tell Me's funniest panelists! You've heard them answering questions on Wait, Wait—subject to FCC limitations. Here's a chance to enjoy a full evening of their unfiltered stand-up comedy! Frederick's date will be hosted by Wait, Wait regular, Alonzo Bodden, and features Mo Rocca and Emmy Blotnick. Line-up is subject to change.

Tickets start at \$35 and may be purchased online at [WeinbergCenter.org](http://WeinbergCenter.org), by calling the box office at 301-600-2828, or in person at 20 West Patrick Street.

A complete listing of artists and performers scheduled for the 2022-23 season can be found at [WeinbergCenter.org](http://WeinbergCenter.org).

*The Weinberg Center for the Arts is one of the region's premier performing arts presenters, offering film, music, dance, theater, and family-focused programming. Located in the historic Tivoli movie theater in downtown Frederick Maryland, the Weinberg Center strives to ensure that the arts remain accessible and affordable to local and regional audiences alike. Weinberg Center events are made possible with major support from the City of Frederick, the Maryland State Arts Council, Plamondon Hospitality Partners, and other corporate and individual donors.*

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# COOKING

## The Big Apple

Sonya Verlaque

I lived in New York City for about five and a half years, and as they say, it is the city that never sleeps. You can get anything at any time, especially food. Restaurants are open very late, which was fortunate for me when I worked very late, but some of my favorite food came from food carts. For breakfast I often grabbed a Portuguese buttered roll and coffee from a cart going into work, and the halal carts were the best for lunch or dinner. Shawarma and falafel are always great for a snack or sandwich, but my favorite was always the halal chicken with white sauce. Everyone has their favorite cart (ahem: north east corner of 58th and 9th) and this recipe is adapted from The Golden Balance's recipe for halal chicken. It comes pretty close to eating it right out of a white styrofoam container on the street.

### Halal Cart Chicken

Chicken thighs tend to stay more moist when cooking in a pan, however if you prefer chicken breasts its perfectly fine. Sazon is the more traditional seasoning, also used in many latin dishes, but can be hard to find and is just a blend of coriander, cumin, achiote, gallic powder, oregano, salt and pepper. Some recipes call for Sazon, in this one paprika is essentially used as the substitute for achiote.

#### Ingredients:

##### Chicken Marinade

2 lb chicken thighs, boneless, skinless (or skinless, boneless chicken breast)

- 1 table spoon plain yogurt
- 1/2 lemon juiced
- 1 clove minced garlic
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp paprika
- 1/2 tsp turmeric
- 1/2 tsp oregano
- 1/2 tsp cumin
- 1/2 tsp chili flakes
- Salt and pepper

#### Rice:

- 2 cups basmati rice
- 2 Tbsp butter
- 1 tsp turmeric
- 1/2 tsp cardamom
- 1/2 tsp cumin
- 2 tsp salt
- 3 cups veggie broth

#### Red Sauce:

- 20-30 Chile de arbol
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1/4 cup chili water
- 5 cloves garlic cloves
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp paprika
- 1 tsp coriander
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 cumin

#### White sauce:

- 1/2 cup mayo
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup full fat plain yogurt
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1 Tbsp sazón or seasoning salt
- 1 Tbsp dried parsley (I prefer over fresh)
- Optional: 2 tsp honey or sugar
- Finishing: Shredded lettuce and tomato

Preparations: Butterfly chicken thighs, then drizzle olive oil and massage, then add your spices, lemon juice and yogurt and place in the refrigerator to marinate. You can do this just before and continue to prep the rest of the dish, or do it ahead of time to let the flavor develop more.

To make the red sauce, place the chile de arbol on a cutting board (careful not to touch your eyes in the process), and cut off the stems from each chili pepper. Then, remove and discard the seeds. Next, soak them in boiling water. They should soak for about 20-30 minutes. This will soften them up considerably. Once chilis are hydrated, finish making the red sauce by placing the hydrated chilis into a blender with chili water, garlic cloves, vinegar vegetable oil, chili powder, paprika, coriander, cumin and salt. Fully blend and then strain into a condiment squeeze bottle using a small mesh strainer or colander, or just into another bowl. (Chef tip: while the chilis are hydrating, you can make the white sauce!)

To make the white sauce, place mayonnaise, sour cream yogurt, vinegar, lemon juice, and parsley into a bowl and whisk until smooth. Give it a taste, and if you'd like to make it a bit sweet, and cut out a little acidity, pour in honey or salt, whisk again. Carefully pour sauce into a condiment squeeze bottle using a funnel, this makes it very authentic. Or just use a spoon later.

Cook chicken in a pan on medium high heat. Chicken thighs cook quickly, so it should only take 8-10 minutes on both sides. Internal temperature of thighs should read 165 degrees. After they're done, let rest 5-10 minutes, then cut chicken in small

cubes. Do not rinse the pan, use it again for making the rice to keep all the chicken flavor.

To make the rice, first rinse with cold water. Then, in a large, deep non-stick pan (hopefully the original pan you cooked the chicken in) melt butter and scrape the chicken renderings. Add turmeric, cardamom and cumin. Allow to toast for about 1-2 minutes. It should become fragrant and then you can add the rinsed rice to toast as well for about a minute. Then add salt and vegetable broth and bring to a boil. Once boiling, cover with lid, and bring heat down to low. Allow to simmer for 10-15 minutes. Do not stir it.

To serve, spoon a bed of rice on a plate, spread a small handful of shredded lettuce on top, then a small handful of tomatoes, followed by the diced chicken on top, and red and white sauce to your desired taste.

### Magnolia Bakery Banana Pudding CopyCat

I lived in walking distance to Magnolia Bakery, luckily it was a decent walk to earn a treat. Bananas are not my favorite, but for some reason the Magnolia bakery banana pudding elevates this mundane fruit into a luxurious desert. This is a copycat recipe using instant pudding for time saving and still ends up great.

#### Ingredients:

- 1 14-oz can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup very cold milk
- 1/2 cup very cold water
- 1 3.4 oz box instant vanilla pudding
- 1 11 - 12 oz box of Nilla Wafers reserve 5-6 wafers and crumbs from box

- 3 cups heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 teaspoon clear vanilla flavoring
- 5 bananas just barely ripe sliced

Preparations: Using either a hand held mixer or a stand mixer, combine the sweetened condensed milk, cold water and cold milk. Mix on low-medium for 1-2 minutes. Add the vanilla pudding mix and beat on medium for 2 minutes. The pudding mixture should just start to thicken. Cover and refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight to ensure the pudding completely sets. Using either a hand held mixer or a stand mixer, combine the heavy cream and vanilla flavoring and beat until the cream is stiff. Gently fold the whipped cream into the fully set pudding. Fold until the cream and pudding is completely combined and uniform in color, with no visible streaks. For presentation, use either a large serving bowl, trifle dish or a compote dish. (you can also use mini trifle dishes for individual servings) Line the bottom of the bowl with 1/3 of the vanilla wafers (about 30 wafers).

Evenly layer 1 1/2 cups of the sliced bananas on top of the wafers. Top banana slices with 1/3 of the pudding mixture. Repeat until there are 3 layers of wafers, bananas and pudding. Crush the reserved 5-6 wafers.

To finish, sprinkle the top of the pudding with crushed wafers. You may also use any leftover crumbs from the wafer box. Cover and keep refrigerated until serving.

To read other cooking articles, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.



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# ASTRONOMY

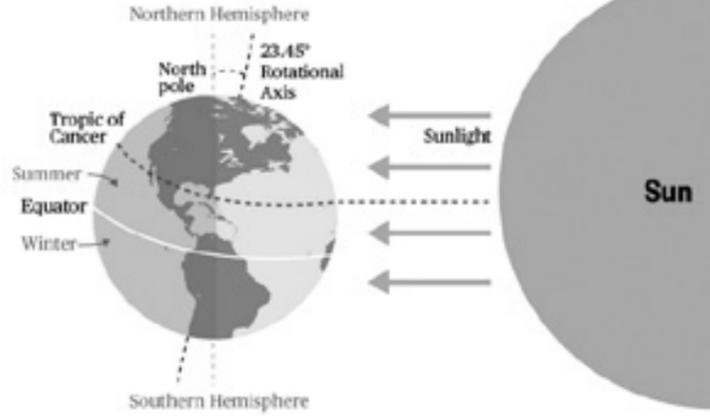
## The night sky of June

Professor Wayne Wooten

For June, the “Honeymoon”, June’s Full Moon, is on June 3rd. The last quarter moon passed below Saturn on June 10th, rising after midnight. The waning crescent sits just to the lower left of Jupiter in the dawn on June 14th. It will be just above Mercury about 40 minutes before sunrise on June 16th. It is new on June 18th.

Back in the evening sky, the waning crescent makes a fine triangle in the west with brilliant Venus to the lower left of it, and much fainter Mars to upper left of both of them. Summer begins with the Summer Solstice at 10:58 on June 21st, the longest day of the year. We get about 14 hours of daylight now. The first quarter moon is June 24.

While the naked eye, dark adapted by several minutes away from any bright lights, is a wonderful instrument to stare up into deep space, far beyond our own Milky Way, binoculars are better for spotting specific deep sky objects. For a detailed map of northern hemisphere skies, visit the [www.skymaps.com](http://www.skymaps.com) website and download the map for the northern hemisphere skies in June; it will have a more extensive calendar, and list of best objects for the naked eyes, binoculars, and scopes on the back of the map.



The summer solstice results from the tilt of the Earth’s rotational axis. The Earth’s axis or rotation is 23.5 degrees. During the northern hemisphere’s summer, the top half for the Earth is tilted towards the sun, making the days longer than in the southern hemisphere’s. The longest day of the year is called the Summer Solstice.

There is also a video exploring the June sky from the Hubble Space Telescope website at: [www.hubblesite.org/explore\\_astronomy/tonights\\_sky](http://www.hubblesite.org/explore_astronomy/tonights_sky). Sky & Telescope has highlights at [www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/astronomy-podcasts/](http://www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/astronomy-podcasts/) for observing the sky each week of the month.

This June Mercury lies between us and the sun until midmonth, when it moves into the dawn sky just to below the crescent moon on June 16th. Brilliant Venus dominates the dusk for a few more weeks, to pass between us and the Sun in July. It is a greatest eastern elongation, appearing half lit in telescopes, on June 3rd. It seems

to be chasing Mars to its upper left, never quite catches up. They are closest, 3.6 degrees apart, at month’s end, but by then, Venus is retrograding back toward the Sun, and now appears only 32% lit crescent. It is now 33” of arc across, and this crescent will be easily observable in hand held binoculars well into July. It is easiest to see this phase in bright twilight, before the planet, now at its brightest, overwhelms the eye’s view.

With our smartphone telescopes we can easily adjust the exposure down to 1/10,000” and catch the phase, and perhaps cloud details, with the new filters and technology. Mars is getting closer to the Sun each evening, and like Venus, will disappear behind the Sun by July. Jupiter and Saturn are both in the dawn sky now, and will not get back for evening observing until this fall.

The Big Dipper is almost over-

head as twilight falls, and its pointers take you north to the Pole Star. If you drop south from the bowl of the Big Dipper, Leo the Lion is in the SW. Note the Egyptian Sphinx is based on the shape of this Lion in the sky. Taking the arc in the Dipper’s handle, we “arc” SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of Spring. Cooler than our yellow Sun, and much poorer in heavy elements, some believe its strange motion reveals it to be an invading star from another smaller galaxy, now colliding with the Milky Way in Sagittarius in the summer sky. Moving almost perpendicular to the plane of our Milky Way, Arcturus was the first star in the sky where its proper motion across the historic sky was noted, by Edmund Halley.

Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo, then curve to Corvus the Crow, a four sided grouping. Jupiter lies just east of Spica this July. North of Corvus, in the arms of Virgo, is where our large scopes will show members of the Virgo Supercluster, a swarm of over a thousand galaxies about 50 million light years distant.

To the east, Hercules is well up, with the nice globular cluster M-13 marked on your sky map and visible in binocs. The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega (from Carl Sagan’s novel and movie, “Contact”), rises in the NE as twilight deepens. Twice as hot as our Sun, it appears blue-white, like most bright stars. At the opposite end of the parallelogram of Lyra is M-57, the Ring Nebula. It is visible with large binoculars, but does not show its fine colors and faint central white dwarf until you get to time exposure with a telescope.

Northeast of Lyra is Cygnus, the Swan, flying down the Milky Way.

Its bright star Deneb, at the top of the “northern cross” is one of the luminaries of the Galaxy, about 50,000 times more luminous than our Sun and around 3,000 light years distant. Under dark skies, note the “Great Rift”, a dark nebula in front of our solar system as we revolve around the core of the Milky Way in the Galactic Year of 250 million of our own years.

To the east, Altair is the third bright star of the summer triangle. It lies in Aquila the Eagle, and is much closer than Deneb; it lies within about 13 light years of our Sun. Use your binocs to pick up many clusters in this rich region of our own Cygnus spiral arm rising now in the east. The nearest spiral arms of our Milky Way are now on the eastern horizon, and may be mistaken for a cloud rising if you are not used to the transparency of rural skies! They arc overhead in the morning hours for restless campers.

To the south, Antares is well up at sunset in Scorpius. It appears reddish (its Greek name means rival of Ares or Mars to the Latins) because it is half as hot as our yellow Sun; it is bright because it is a bloated red supergiant, big enough to swallow up our solar system all the way out to Saturn’s orbit! Scorpius is the brightest constellation in the sky, with 13 stars brighter than the pole star Polaris! Note the fine naked eye clusters M-6 and M-7, just to the left of the Scorpion’s tail.

Just a little east of the Scorpion’s tail is the teapot shape of Sagittarius, which lies toward the center of the Milky Way. From a dark sky site, you can pick out the fine stellar nursery, M-8, the Lagoon Nebula, like a cloud of steam coming out of the teapot’s spout.

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## Farmers’ Almanac

“By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he’s wrong.”

—Charles Wadsworth

### Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch:

Dry and comfortable (1, 2, 3, 4, 5); 6-10 turning very warm and humid, then scattered PM thunderstorms (6, 7, 8, 9, 10); 11-15 fair, cooler at first, then becoming hot and humid with isolated p.m. showers (11, 12, 13, 14, 15); warm and humid, then turning stormy with PM showers and thunderstorms (16, 17, 18, 19, 20); dry and warm (21); late-day thunderstorms, best chance east; still warm and humid (22, 23, 24, 25); 26-30 dry at first, then isolated PM showers and thunderstorms west; hot and humid (26, 27, 28, 29, 30).

**Severe Weather Watch:** The Almanac sees excessive heat (14, 15), severe thunderstorms (22, with more excessive heat (29, 30).

**Full Moon:** The Full Moon in June will occur on Saturday, June 3rd. It has often been referred to as

Strawberry Moon because the first strawberries of the season become ripe for the picking in June! It has also been known as Rose Moon because roses start to show their gorgeous blooms at the beginning of the month.

**Special Notes:** The Summer Solstice that will occur on Wednesday, June 21st, signaling the official start of summer (it’s finally here!).

**Holidays:** Proudly display ‘Old Glory’ on Wednesday, June 14th! Be sure to display it properly. Father’s Day is Sunday, June 19th. Do something really nice for the guy who a) taught you how to ride a two-wheeler b) videotaped every sporting event or recital you ever were in, c) helped you finance that new (fill in the blank), or d) all of the above!

**The Garden:** Cut back perennials like Shasta daisy, black-eyed Susan, coneflower, and lavender after first bloom to encourage a second round of flowers in the Fall. Cut back fuchsia, geranium, and margarita to encourage branching. Additional pruning may be

required in June of fast-growing plants, such as juniper, privet and yew. This will help promote new growth and also maintain a desirable shape during the growing season. Transplant when the rainy season starts but remember that working in the garden when plant leaves are wet can spread many diseases.

**The Farm:** Best for planting root crops (14, 15); weeding and stirring the soil (16, 17); planting above-ground crops (1, 2, 18, 19, 20); harvesting all crops (3, 4); the best days for setting hens and incubators (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30); the slaughtering and butchering of meat (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25); transplanting (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11); the harvesting and storing grains (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16).

### J. Gruber’s Thought For Today’s Living

“Send your son into the world with good principles, a good temper, a good business education, and habits of industry, then he will work his way.”

**FITNESS & HEALTH**

# Frederick Health celebrates cancer survivors

**Joshua Faust  
Frederick Health**

As the largest healthcare provider in the county, Frederick Health is more than just a hospital. The system has invested significant resources in expanding cancer treatment options for the community over the past ten years. The most visible of these investments is the free-standing James M Stockman Cancer Institute, completed in 2016 and located just off US 15 and Opossumtown Pike.

The healthcare system also has several other locations and service lines that can treat individuals diagnosed with cancer. One of the ways they've improved cancer treatments and the patient experience is through state-of-the-art technology.

This June, Frederick Health is celebrating those individuals that have successfully completed cancer treatment, providing a place for them to gather and discuss their shared experiences, and learn more about what the healthcare system is doing to improve cancer treatment in the community.

"Frederick Health is leading the way," said Dr. Maurice Smith, Medical Director of Chest Surgery with the Frederick Health Medical Group.

"We are the first community health organization in Maryland to offer robotic lung biopsies for patients, and this equipment allows us to biopsy smaller nodules. It also allows us to provide an earlier diagnosis and peace of mind."

Medical experts agree that the patient experience is often the most essential factor in determining how an individual access their healthcare. Ensuring they feel heard and that their care is unique is often a primary factor in an individual's decision to pursue one healthcare provider over another. By making the biopsy procedure a more comfortable patient experience, Dr. Smith hopes to boost the community's earlier detection and treatment rates.

"This technology puts the patient experience first, without incisions or needles," added Dr. Smith. "As with

most cancers, detecting lung cancer early is the key to an increased survival rate."

Frederick Health has also developed several multidisciplinary clinics. At these clinical visits, patients can see all their providers and specialists on the same day, at the same location - no need to schedule multiple appointments or travel out of the area. This kind of service can be life changing, says Dr. Heather Chalfin, a fellowship-trained Urologic Oncologist Surgeon with the Frederick Health Medical Group.

"This new multidisciplinary clinic will improve the coordination and treatment for the patients and the overall patient experience. Putting patients at the forefront of their treatment plans, working for and with the patients, is pivotal," said Dr. Chalfin, who supervises this new clinic.

A cancer diagnosis is one of the most frightening health experiences an individual can go through in their lifetime. Cancer knows no boundaries and impacts people of every age, gender, race, and location. Cancer is also a diagnosis that affects the entire family. Statistics show that the overall number of cancer deaths in America has significantly declined in recent decades - down 27% since 2001, according to the Centers for Disease Control. However, cancer is still the second leading cause of death in the nation, behind only heart disease.

To recognize those who have survived a cancer diagnosis and their support structure, whether family or friends, Frederick Health is proud to partner with the National Cancer Survivors Day organization. Together, these two groups are working to honor those in the

community diagnosed with and beaten with cancer.

This year, the week-long National Cancer Survivors event will be held from June 5 - June 9, 2023, and includes numerous in-person events like discussion groups, learning opportunities, and provider presentations. Virtual events like support groups, educational classes, meditation, and yoga will also take place.

Anyone newly diagnosed, currently in treatment, or with a cancer history is encouraged to participate. Family members and those that have supported cancer patients are also invited to attend.

"Our patients come first and Frederick Health offers award-winning cancer treatment to our community," said Janet Rhoderick, Manager of Oncology Services with Frederick Health.

This event is an opportunity to recognize members of the cancer survivor community in and around Frederick. Frederick Health invites those interested in joining the fellowship to share their stories, connect with other cancer survivors, celebrate personal milestones, raise awareness of ongoing challenges, and recognize those who have supported their healing along the way.

"From diagnosis to treatment, individuals on a cancer journey hold many hands. It is a journey that is multi-faceted and often life changing. Support is necessary," added Rhoderick.

Each day of the week has a particular theme and focuses on the patient's journey. Monday, June 5, for example, is all about lung cancer. Tuesday, June 6, covers colorectal cancers. Wednesday, June 7, highlights Precision Medicine & Genet-



ics' elevated role in cancer treatment and diagnosis. Thursday, June 8, will be dedicated to discussing Prostate Cancer and CyberKnife Radio-surgery, while Friday, June 9, will cover Breast Cancer and Gynecological Cancers. Experts in these fields, including Dr. Smith and Dr. Chalfin, will present on these topics and lead discussions.

"By bringing our cancer survivors, their families, and our care team together in fellowship, we honor this

journey and the shared energy and efforts of all involved." Rhoderick continued.

While Frederick Health has held similar events, these were paused during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are excited to start hosting these events again in our community," she added.

For more information, including a complete list of scheduled events and discussions, please visit [www.frederickhealth.org/SurvivorsWeek](http://www.frederickhealth.org/SurvivorsWeek).

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# ALL OUR YESTERDAYS - FREDERICK COUNTY HISTORY

## June 7

Benjamin Tasker made a profit on the land patent he received which he called "Tasker's Chance." But it pales when compared to the fortune the man to whom he sold the land in 1744.

Tasker surveyed what is today Frederick in 1725. Two years later, on June 7, 1727, he received his patent for the land. His tract began near the junction of the Monocacy with Beaver Creek, now Carroll Creek. Fourteen years later Tasker sold the 7,000 acres to Daniel Dulany for what amounted to about \$8,400.

People thought Dulany the fool when he sold large portions of this tract to farmers for far less than he paid. His profits came when he laid out Fredericktown in 1745.

The 340 lots, 60 feet wide and from 350 to 400 feet deep, were sold to individuals on a novel and innovative plan. The purchasers paid four or five pounds for their lots depending on the desirability of the location.

The innovation was ground rent. This required the buyers to pay Dulany, or his heirs, one shilling per year for the first 21 years, and two shillings a year thereafter – forever. Some ground rents were higher, as much as 3 shillings a year for 21 years, and six shillings a year perpetually.

The Dulany's profited handsomely for generations. The practice of ground rents still exists, although most land in the state is free of this fee today.

## June 14

Francis Scott Key could not have foreseen the monuments that would be erected to his patriotism. The last such memorial was dedicated on Flag Day, June 14, 1922, at Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor near the spot where he

had witnessed the huge flag still waving after a furious bombardment of the fort by the British in September 1814.

President Warren Harding was the main speaker at the 4 p.m. ceremonies, which were broadcast live to all parts of Maryland over the facilities of the Baltimore American.

At the base of the memorial is inscribed: "To Francis Scott Key, author of 'The Star-Spangled Banner,' and to the soldiers and sailors who took part in the Battle of North Point and the Defense of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812."

In citing Key's patriotism, President Harding said: "No concern for self narrowed his thought. No glorification of the individual marred his vision. No pursuit of fame set his soul ablaze. No personal advantage hindered his pen. His country and his concern for its safety were combined in his all-consuming thought; the Nation was the great uplifting and exalting love. In this impassioned, anxious, self-sacrificing, exalting, and exulting love of country, transcending all else, Key reached the sublime heights, and wrote the poetic revelation of an American soul aflame."

It wasn't until nearly nine years later that Congress passed the law making Key's words our national anthem.

## June 21

At its regular meeting on June 21, 1922, the Frederick County Board of Education employed W. K. Klingaman as the new principal of Frederick High School. He was the first principal of the combined Boys and Girls high schools as a co-educational institution.

Klingaman was born April 6, 1891, in Jacksonville, PA, was a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, in Lancaster, and took post-graduate courses



Elm Street School

at Columbia University in New York.

He taught school in Bel Air, which was already co-educational, in the 1921-1922 school year.

Charles Remsburg, who had been principal of the Girls High School, was selected as the vice principal of Frederick High. G. Nevia Rebert, who had been principal of Boys High School, resigned from the county teaching staff to take a position as head of the Department of Education at Hood College.

Klingaman served as principal of Frederick High School for three years at which time he resigned to become Western Maryland Supervisor of High Schools for the State Board of Education. Though he was only in Frederick a short time he made a lasting impact.

During the 1924-25 school year he coached the Cadets to their first ever state basketball championship. He returned frequently for alumni banquets, and often stopped to visit friends on trips to and from his Hagerstown home.

On February 19, 1934, while a patient at Phipps Clinic in Baltimore, he was killed when he deliberately walked into the path of a Pennsylv-

nia Railroad train at a street crossing. He was survived by his wife and one son, William Klingaman.

Six months after the appointment of Klingaman, the school board authorized Hahn & Betson Contractors to build a new high school for "colored students" at a cost of \$23,000. This was the Lincoln School.

In 1938, the Board of Education awarded a contract to Calvin Owens of Bethesda, to build a new Frederick High School for a price of \$369,500.

[A new Frederick High School, at a cost of \$15 million, has replaced the 1939 structure. And The Lincoln School is now Lincoln Elementary.]

## June 28

The war was not going well for the Union in early 1863. Moral was low. And Confederate forces were marching north through Maryland headed for Pennsylvania and the fateful Battle of Gettysburg.

General Joseph Hooker had taken his post as commander of Union forces from General Ambrose Burnside on

January 26, 1863. An overconfident Hooker was badly defeated by General Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army of Northern Virginia at Chancellorsville in early May. His disagreements with another general over war strategy led eventually to Hooker's request of Lincoln to be relieved of command.

Gen. George G. Meade relieved Hooker, who was encamped near Prospect Hall on the outskirts of Frederick, on June 28, 1863.

In General Order #65, Hooker said: "In conforming with the orders of The War Department, dated June 27, 1863, I relinquished command of the Army of The Potomac. It is transferred to Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, a brave and accomplished officer, who has earned the confidence and esteem of this army on many a well-fought field. Impressed with the belief that my usefulness as the commander of the Army of The Potomac is impaired, I part from it, yet not without deepest emotion."

Hooker remained in the army and commanded Union forces at the Battle of Lookout Mountain. He died in 1879 and was buried in Cincinnati.



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# COMMUNITY NOTES

## Dante Lupinetti's self-publishing journey

Claire Doll  
MSMU Class of 2024

Are you looking for your next book series—perhaps by a local author, right here in the Walkersville area? How about post-apocalyptic, supernatural Christian fiction? If your interest is sparked, why not consider this worthy, self-published novel?

Author Dante Lupinetti has always loved writing. In fact, he has been writing his entire life, long before publishing his first novels after retiring in 2019. When he attended the University of Maryland in hopes to study some form of writing, Dante found himself majoring in radio, TV, and film at the university's Arts and Sciences college.

"I've always had some kind of desire to write creatively," says Dante when reflecting on the very beginning of his writing journey. In college, he took courses relating to screenwriting and workshoping creative pieces, but after graduating, Dante discovered the field of technical publications and writing. "I didn't even know it existed at the time," he said.

Embarking on careers from test engineers to working for software companies, Dante has taken a range of classes specializing in electronics and has even pursued a second bachelor's degree in computer science.

Although he rarely wrote creatively during his career journey, Dante has always been writing, whether he realized it or not. He

has found that coding and writing, while seemingly different, share so many similarities; both are disciplined, creative events that require attention and carefulness. Because of this, he has been "writing" his entire life—just not in the way one would think. While technical writing is more procedural, it requires the same disciplined focus to thread together comprehensive and detailed thoughts—this is how one constructs a manual, for example. "When you have to repair the stuff, you really have to know how it works," he says. "I got so much experience doing this."

Right before Dante retired, he returned to his love of creative writing and wrote his first novelette: "Heritage of Faith." This memoir tells the story of his kids, about their faith walks. "It was so meaningful that I had to write it," he says about his first work.

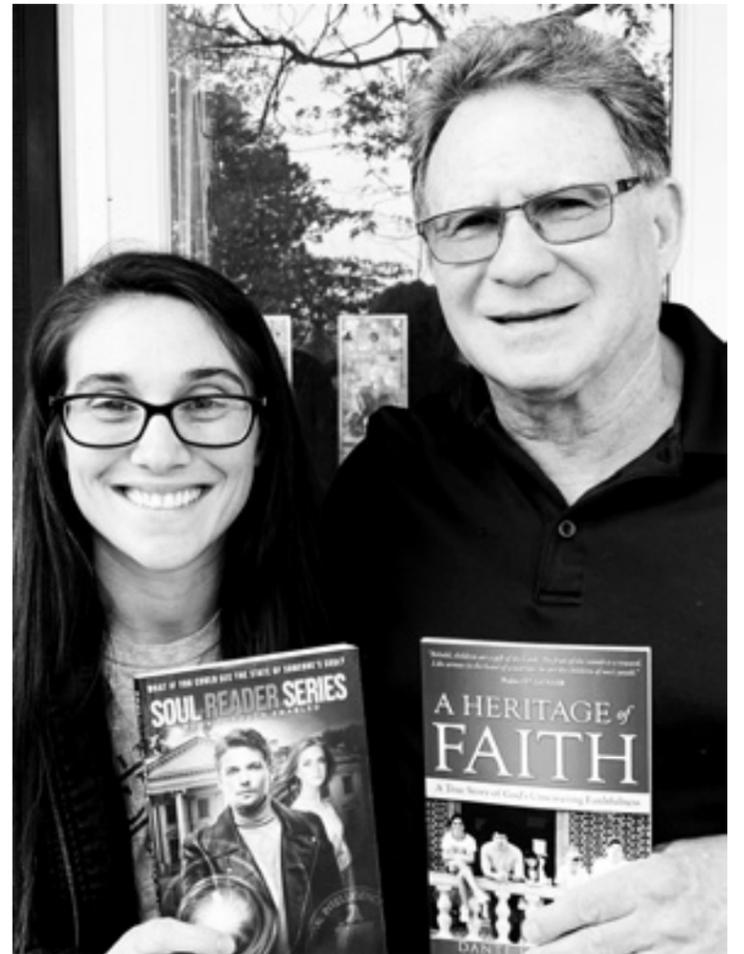
Dante pursued self-publishing when he read from the CEO of self-publishing, Chandler Bolt, in his book, "Published." Dante claimed to his wife he could write a book in 90 days after seeing an ad. After successfully accomplishing this task, he edited his own work, then sent it to an editor for review. During this process, he learned about the different types of editing. While copyediting focused on the grammar and syntax of the language, developmental editing looked at the work as a cohesive whole, finding the plot holes and making sense of everything. In fact, in the process of developmental editing, Dante has again made

comparisons to coding. "I had to surgically insert ideas," he said. "If your software has a design hole, you have to find a solution without tearing everything up that's already there." Interestingly enough, the skills he's learned in software have seamlessly transferred to his writing experience.

Then Dante found out about a self-publishing school, a course designed for writers who wanted to publish their own works under the instruction of urban fantasy author Ramy Vance. Dante went to an author intensive program in San Diego and learned about different aspects relating to the entire writing profession: writing, publishing, and marketing. After enrolling in writing classes and marketing courses, Dante realized how important it is to "study the business" in self-publishing. "We research and practice the craft of fiction writing, as well as publishing and marketing, primarily on Amazon," he says.

As opposed to traditional publishing, self-publishing gives the author freedom and control over their work. Dante was responsible for editing and marketing his book—and learning this technique—but did so with the ambition to build a solid readership. Although finding an editor and working closely with his own writing comes at a price, he's found it is the better of both options.

Dante also learned how crucial it is to master the genre he wants to write in. His teachers told him to study authors in the genre they



want to work in. "When you have something like my book—supernatural Christian fiction—it gets difficult." Within his genre, Dante is searching for a local readership, of ideally 2,000 readers that will track and follow his next books. "You've got to meet reader expectations," he says. "When readers go on Amazon, they know exactly what they want."

But it all comes down to the "why" of writing. Why do you want

to publish books? Why do you want to pursue the profession? For Dante, his "why" goes back to his belief system: "I write to explore biblical truth in story. I want to unearth the scripture through story."

Dante has done exactly that. His first novelette is followed by a three-part book series: The Soul Reader Series. Book 1, "Touch Enabled," follows the main character Zeke Jackson and his ability to see the state of someone's soul. Book 2, "Sight Enabled" and Book 3: "Hearing Enabled" continue this journey, appealing to fans of thriller and supernatural with a Christian base.

Reviews read: "Lupinetti has created a fast paced, engaging, and compelling series", and "I'm a big fan of supernatural literature and Zeke's journey hooked me from the beginning." Dante's passion of writing is evident in these reviews and is seen in his solid readership, which he hopes to increase.

"I've come to learn that books are productions," says Dante after a three-book series and one novelette, with the ambition to rewrite these books for edits and improve the stories.

Dante now lives in Walkersville with his wife and has five grown children and twelve grandchildren. Active in his church life, Dante appreciates the area he has grown up in and is even more appreciative of his work and life opportunities.

If interested in reading his books or learning more, sign up for his newsletter: <https://www.subscribe.com/soulreadersignup> and find the first book of his Soul Reader Series by searching "Touch Enabled by Dante Lupinetti" into Amazon. Dante's locality in Walkersville, his experience in software, and his love for writing combine to make him a well-rounded author and individual who is excited to share his adventurous stories.

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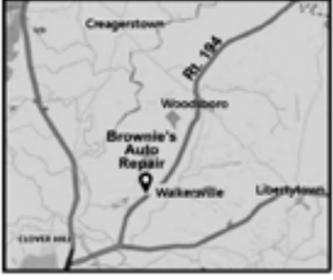


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# COUNTY NOTES

## 45th Annual Gas Engine, Tractor and Truck Show

On June 9, 10, and 11 The Central Maryland Antique Tractor Club will host their 45th Annual Gas Engine, Tractor and Truck Show at Gladhill Tractor, located at 5509 Mt. Zion Road, Frederick.

Admission is free. Food will be available for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Plenty of family friendly activities for all ages including Wagon Rides, Barrel Train Rides, a Combine Slide, Shingle Mill, Gas Engine Displays, Tractor and Truck Displays, Flea Markets, Crafts and more. Vendors are welcome.

The Central Maryland Antique Tractor Club is a non-profit organization founded on September 1st, 1977. The club

is defined in the by-laws as a corporation that shall be composed of members having the desire to promote the restoration, preservation, and use of antique tractors and machinery in activities which are educational in nature and the sport of tractor pulling, and improving the standard of community through providing education, interest, and general participation in these activities.

**This year's family friendly events include:**

Friday, June 9th at 5:30 p.m. - Antique and Collectibles Auction. Consignments accepted until Thursday. For more info

contact Jeremiah at 443-286-7843. AT 7 p.m. - Dave Boyer, Clayton Lenhart and Yarnell Wastler Scholarship Fund Memorial Cake Auction.

Saturday, June 10th at 10 a.m. - Antique Tractor Pull with Double Tree Classes (2 tractors are hooked to the sled side by side and try to pull it) 1p.m. - Children's Pedal Tractor Pull (ages 5-10) and Free Watermelon after the Pedal Pull.

Sunday, June 11th at 11 a.m. - Lawn and Garden Tractor Pull, noon - Parade of Tractors, 1 p.m. - Children's Pedal Tractor Pull (ages 5-10), 2 p.m. - Slow Tractor Race.

For more info contact Jeremiah Herbst @ 443-286-7843 or email [cmatc@comcast.net](mailto:cmatc@comcast.net).



It's never too early for a kid to fall in love with tractors - and when Hudson can finally reach the peddles, there is a ten-acre field awaiting mowing for him!

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 The Hankook Great Rebate has been extended through June 30, 2023.

**County Unveils New Website Design**

Visitors to Frederick County Government's website will see a new design and improved ease of use. The site, FrederickCountyMD.gov, began rolling out a new look mid-day Tuesday. The entire site should reflect the change by the end of the day. The new design features larger images, a high-contrast background, and quick links that reflect the most commonly visited pages. New calendars on the home page will help residents find upcoming meetings and broadcasts.

"I am excited to launch the new website," County Executive Jessica Fitzwater said. "Thousands of people use the site each day, and this redesign should make it easier for them to find the information they

need. The Transition Team recommended an overhaul of the site to be more constituent-focused, and that is exactly what we've done."

Frederick County Government's website is responsively designed so people viewing on mobile devices can easily find content. There is a pop-up chat option that answers common questions, as well as links to FCG FixIt, the County's constituent services app for reporting issues, asking questions, or submitting compliments. Three new Government Happenings calendars feature meeting information for County Council sessions, boards and commission meetings, and FCG TV programming. A Google Translate button can be found on each page of the site. CivicPlus hosts Frederick County's

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

Monday, June 12th Cash Only (Johnny Cash Tribute)	Tuesday, June 13th Half Serious	Wednesday, June 14th Different Sisters Band
Thursday, June 15th Dixie Wind Band	Friday, June 16th Bootleg	Saturday, June 17th Borderline Band

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# COUNTY NOTES

site. The company worked with Frederick County's Interagency Information Technology Division, the Office of Communications and Public Engagement, and representatives from each division to overhaul the website.

### County Calls For Applications For Critical Farms Program

The Frederick Agricultural Land Preservation Program has opened up an application cycle for the Frederick County Critical Farms program. The Critical Farms program assists full-time farmers in purchasing farmland and also works to preserve the land.

Since the Critical Farms program began in 1994, it has assisted 60 farmers in acquiring farms and preserved more than 8,400 acres of farmland.

The program was created to help farmers compete with non-farmer buyers who oftentimes have resources not available to farmers and therefore are in a more competitive position to buy farmland. Through the program, the County pays the farm buyers for an option to acquire an easement. The option agreement requires the new farm owner to apply to either the state easement program and/or other governmental land preservation programs for a period of five years.

In order to apply, applicants must have a ratified contract of sale on a farm that meets the program's minimum criteria. Interested applicants should contact Land Preservation Planner II Shannon O'Neil at 301-600-1411 or via email at [SONeil@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:SONeil@FrederickCountyMD.gov) by Thursday, June 1.

Critical Farms is one of several agricultural preservation programs managed by the Frederick County Division of Planning and Permitting. Together, the programs have preserved over 75,000 acres of farmland, of which 71,315 acres have been permanently preserved.

### Frederick County Announces Drone Show for 275th Jubilee

The Frederick County 275th Planning Committee announced that they will have an official grand finale to include Frederick County's first-ever synchronized drone show at their upcoming jubilee on June 10th.

Sky Elements, of Dallas, Texas, will illuminate the night's sky over Utica District Park. The show will feature 150 drones, customized from 10 key categories: Agriculture, Business and Economy, Changing Communities, Education, Foundations (History), Government, Great

Outdoors, Looking Forward (Today & Tomorrow), Tourism, and Transportation.

The drone show will begin at 9:20 p.m. and will run for approximately 15 minutes. The show viewing area will be located by the main stage. In the event of severe weather, only the drone portion of

the event will be rescheduled to the following day, June 11, at the same time.

Frederick County's 275th Anniversary Jubilee is being held June 10, from 3 to 10 p.m. at Utica District Park, rain or shine. The free event includes something for everyone—families,

history enthusiasts, and anyone looking for a fun way to spend a Saturday.

Additional event details including the schedule of events, an event map, and more information about Frederick County's 275th Jubilee will be updated to [frederickcountymd.gov/275jubilee](http://frederickcountymd.gov/275jubilee).

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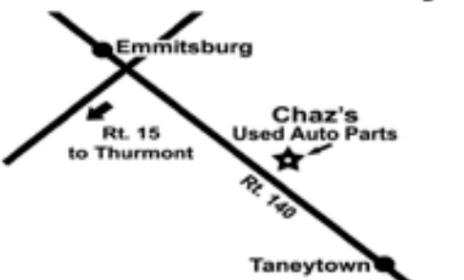
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<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p>  <p><b>3326 Buffalo Rd., New Windsor</b> 5 Bdrms/ 3.5 Baths/ 3859 SqFt/ 1 Ac. Lot 3 Finished Levels/ Custom Upgrades <b>\$595,000</b> <i>Call Cathi Miller</i></p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>748 Spruce St., Hagerstown</b> 3 Bdrms/ 1 Bath/ 1200 SqFt/ Fenced Yard Main Level Laundry/ 2 Sheds <b>\$189,900</b> <i>Call Carroll Glass</i></p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p>  <p><b>6842 Browns Quarry Rd., Sabillasville</b> 6+ Acres/ Wooded/ Conventional Perc <b>\$159,900</b> <i>Call Cindy Grimes</i></p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p>  <p><b>158 N. Carroll St., Thurmont</b> 1672 SqFt House w/ Bank Barn 2.6 Acres Zoned Industrial <b>\$450,000</b> <i>Call Cindy Grimes</i></p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p>  <p><b>8 Rockingham Drive, Keedysville</b> 3 Bdrms/ 3.5 Baths/ 1796 SqFt/ Corner Lot/ Attached Garage/ Outdoor Entertaining Spaces <b>\$409,500</b> <i>Call Kelly Rumpf</i></p>
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